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OPINION METER

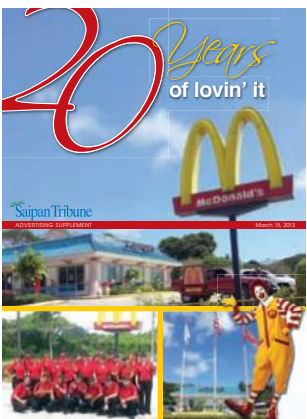
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INSIDE

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT



McDonald's Saipan celebrates its 20th anniversary. Check out today's pullout supplement for details.

WORLD



The Catholic Church finds a new leader in a pioneer pope from Argentina. **➤ PAGE 20**

LIFE & STYLE



Michelle Obama is pushing back the notion that the Obamas don't socialize enough. **➤ PAGE 23**

Customs director stepping down

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Division of Customs Director Jesus Muña said he will be turning in his courtesy resignation today, after the Inos administration offered yesterday to transfer him to another agency.

At the same time, Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) cautioned against pulling out three customs officers from joint anti-drug task forces with federal and local agencies before Muña steps down. "We don't want to create a bad rela-

tionship with federal and local agencies especially because we need to be working closely together to address the drugs problem in the CNMI. We want to keep

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NMI Catholics welcome Pope Francis

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Catholic community in the CNMI, through the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, joined the rest of the Catholic faithful around the world in welcoming the election of Jorge Mario Bergoglio as the new pope.



Jimenez

Rev. Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez, apostolic administrator for the diocese, said in an email yesterday that he is happy and filled with a deep sense of gratitude that the papal conclave—the college of cardinals that elected the pope—was able to finish this significant task for the Catholic faithful.

Bergoglio, who joined the conclave as Archbishop of Buenos Aires, became the first Latin American and Jesuit to be

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NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Diego L. Kaipat, right, a newly confirmed member of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, gets a hug from a family member during the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's session yesterday afternoon. Kaipat and lawmakers said this is the first time that the municipal council will have a members who was born and raised in the Northern Islands, boosting efforts to resettle and develop the islands north of Saipan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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Pope Francis: A humble image, but complex past

By BRIAN MURPHY and MICHAEL WARREN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this picture taken March 3, 2013, Argentina's cardinal Jorge Bergoglio drinks "mate," a traditional local beverage, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

VATICAN CITY (AP)—On the streets in Buenos Aires, the stories about the cardinal who has become the first pope from the Americas often include a very ordinary backdrop: The city bus during rush hour.

Tales are traded about chatting with Archbishop Jorge Bergoglio as he

squeezed in with others for the commute to work. They sometimes talked about church affairs. Other times it could be about what he planned to cook for dinner in the simple downtown apartment he chose over an opulent church estate.

Or perhaps it was a mention of his affection for the tango, which he said he loved as a youth despite having one lung removed following an infection.

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DCCA's Faisao out, Commerce's Igisomar remains. PAGE 5
Police chief wants to rid DPS of illegal drug users. PAGE 5

Local

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TUMON BAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Manta Ray Band and Yonsei Academy sweep gold medals

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Young musicians from Yonsei Academy and members of the popular Manta Ray Band brought home honor and pride to their schools after sweeping the gold and silver awards at the recently concluded Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam.

Saipan Southern High School Manta Band musical director Will DeWitt shared with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the group earned a total of 11 gold and three silver medals during the 10-day festival.

According to Witt, they are planning to put on a public concert on Saipan, probably in April or early May, featuring the same repertoire they performed in Guam last week.

Recipients of the gold awards included the band's Sax Ensemble composed of Steve Park, Jisu Lee, Ken Orejola, Clarence Sablan, and Ian Rogolifoi.

The band's Clarinet Ensemble was also a gold medalist. It is made up of Kanani Lee, Jee Hyun Lee, Sung Jun Kim, and Herman Guerrero.

The Brass Ensemble composed of members Kevin Fejeran, Kim Alvarado, Joshua Sablan, Katrina Cruz, Kun Hee Lee, and Chris Tudela also went home with a gold.

The silver award went to the band's Flute Trio: Lica Ishida, Yelin Lee, and Valentine Paik.

The SSHS Rock Band, "The JayWalkers" were also silver medalists with members Jisu Lee, Jimmy Choi, SoJin Kim, Ji Yoon Kim, Jimin Lee, Yoon Jae Won, SungHo Chung, Sung Jun Kim, and Joel Jang claiming the award.

Yelin Lee for Flute Solo; Kun Hee Lee for Euphonium Solo; and Angela Cruz, Vocal Solo, also received commendations.

"I am immensely proud of them for earning more gold, and more total awards than

any other organization, school, or group in this year's TBMF. The 11 gold awards surpasses the previous medal tally set by SSHS musicians in 2008, 2009, and 2011," said DeWitt.

Koblerville Elementary School and Marianas High School also won major awards at the festival.

Yonsei Academy awards

Thirteen young musicians of Yonsei Academy also emerged winners in various categories.

According to Youngmi Han, the academy's instructor, gold medals were earned by Lica Ishida, Kate Ishida, Cloency Chua, Ziqiang Song, Jimin Lee, Jaehyun Park, Sojin Kim, Youna Lee, Dahyun Hyun, and Edward Minami.

Silver medalists were Ellen Lee, Kevin Kang, and Ayoung Sarah Kim.

Yonsei Academy started participating in the Guam festival since 2009.

Chua, who performed *Hungarian Rhapsody* in the solo competition, said: "I thank all those people who gave me this opportunity. After the performance, I was glad of receiving congratulation from the judges and my piano teacher, Ms. Youngmi Han. I am going to practice harder to fill my weakness and to make a better sound."

Chua is scheduled to participate in a piano competition in South Carolina in October.

Ishida, who played Liszt's *Nocturne Liebstraum* said: "In order to express the beauty of this piece, I had to practice a lot. I am glad of the outcome. Also, I am happy that all of us brought good results, even elementary students."

Kim, who played Chopin's *Winter Wind*, said: "This piece was challenging because I had to express the rough and windy winter wind. Even though this piece was hard with technique, I was encouraged after the good performance."

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AG, landowner's counsel seek help with land claim

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas and landowner counsel Jennifer Dockter updated Saipan lawmakers yesterday about the status of a land claim negotiation whose principal amount of \$77,137 plus interest has remained unpaid for years but the delegation remains non-

committal to appropriating a specific amount at this time.

Luisa Borja Quitugua, 80, has been waiting for payment for her land claim for years but so far, two payments totaling \$11,800 only went toward paying a pre-judgment interest. The parties have yet to agree on the total interest.

Members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative

Delegation have been aware of this particular land claim but so far, no specific appropriation has been put to legislation, mainly because members want to hear from the parties the specific amounts involved.

The AG and the land claimant's counsel said the numbers that have not changed is the principal amount of \$77,137.

Dockter also said the pre-

judgment interest has not changed: \$20,389.53.

San Nicolas told lawmakers that there were two payments made: \$10,000 last year through general appropriation, and just recently, \$1,800 taken out of the land compensation account.

The AG asked that the Saipan delegation be mindful of an ongoing settlement discussion between the parties, and pre-

sented two options: One, make an appropriation for the principal amount while the parties continue to work on the issues of interest and compensation for having Quitugua's residence on public land. Two, wait until the parties finalize their settlement agreement and then appropriate accordingly.

"Either way we take no posi-

tion. We're just here to provide the delegation with an update as to the progress of the settlement discussion," the AG said.

Dockter said it was only on the 11th hour that the Office of the Attorney General brought up the issue of Quitugua's property, allegedly located on public land. She said this should not

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'Decision on CEO Babauta depends on committee findings'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres said yesterday that whatever decision is made in relation to the performance evaluation of CEO Juan N. Babauta would depend on the outcome of the committee report.

The board is scheduled to meet today and among its main agenda is to review the report of the special committee on the CEO's evaluation.

As of 7:30 last night, special committee chair Pete Dela Cruz confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that the panel is still in a meeting, doing the final assessment of the employees' survey conducted last month.

Last Wednesday, the same panel—composed of Dela Cruz and trustees Anthony Aguon and Roy Rios—interviewed

corporation staff and personnel to gauge the effectiveness of the CEO in his job.

Babauta's contract is expiring in July this year. The board decided to conduct the long-overdue evaluation of the CEO this early in order to determine now whether he will be retained or let go.

Sources disclosed that Babauta's employment may be at risk following revelations of dissatisfaction among trustees and many employees.

When asked what can be expected from the board's meeting today, Torres said that any decision on Babauta's employment will "highly depend" on the committee findings.

"If the committee is ready with its report and recommendation...then we may take an action. I will leave it up to the committee," said Torres, adding that there's no rush to decide on the

matter. He assured that any decision will be supported by facts.

Pedro Dela Cruz, when asked about the possibility of completing the review process today, declined to comment.

In an interview with Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider during the Public School System legislative summit last Wednesday, he described the corporation as

in a "tough transitional period" at this time.

The lieutenant governor said the evaluation process is the purview of the board, and what important is to allow the process to go through.

"While this process is ongoing, the administration cannot really comment on it," added Hofschneider.

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POPE

From Page 1

On the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica just after a rain shower Wednesday, wearing unadorned white robes, the new Pope Francis appeared to strike the same tone of simplicity and pastoral humility for a church desperate to move past the tarnished era of abuse scandals and internal Vatican upheavals.

While the new pontiff is not without some political baggage, including questions over his role during a military dictatorship in Argentina in the 1970s, the selection of the 76-year-old Bergoglio reflected a series of history-making decisions by fellow cardinals who seemed determined to offer a suggestion of renewal to a church under pressures on many fronts.

"He is a real voice for the voiceless and vulnerable," said Kim Daniels, director of Catholic Voices USA, a pro-church group. "That is the message."

A cousin back in Argentina said the new pope "has a good spirit" that will benefit Roman Catholicism.

"He is naturally humble and a pastor," said cardiologist Hugo

Bergoglio, adding: "Jorge never thought he would be pope, or even a cardinal. That's why he ended up becoming pope."

Francis, the first pope from Latin America and the first from the Jesuit order, bowed to the crowds in St. Peter's Square and asked for their blessing in a hint of the humble style he cultivated while trying to modernize Argentina's conservative church and move past a messy legacy of alleged complicity during the rule of the military junta of 1976-83.

"Brothers and sisters, good evening," he said before making a reference to his roots in Latin America, which accounts for about 40 percent of the world's Roman Catholics.

Groups of supporters waved white-and-blue Argentine flags in St. Peter's Square as Francis made his first public appearance as pope. Bergoglio, who flew to Rome in tourist class, reportedly had envoys urge Argentines not to come to Rome to celebrate his papacy, but instead donate money to the poor.

In taking the name Francis, he drew connections to the 13th century St. Francis of Assisi, who saw his calling as trying to rebuild the simple spirit of the church and devote his life to missionary journeys. It also evokes

references to Francis Xavier, one of the 16th century founders of the Jesuit order that is known for its scholarship and outreach.

Francis, the son of middle-class Italian immigrants, came close to becoming pope during the last conclave in 2005. He reportedly gained the second-highest vote total in several rounds of voting before he bowed out of the running before selection of Vatican insider Joseph Ratzinger, who became Pope Benedict XVI.

By returning to Bergoglio, the conclave confounded speculation that it would turn to a younger candidate more attuned to younger elements in the church and with possibly more stamina for the rigors of the modern papacy with nearly nonstop obligations and frequent global travel. Francis appears in good health, but his age and possible limitations from his single lung raise questions about whether he can face the demands of the position. He doesn't much like to travel, say priests in Buenos Aires.

Unlike many of the other papal contenders, Bergoglio never held a top post inside the Vatican administration, or curia. This outsider status could pose obstacles in attempts to reform the Vatican, which has been hit with embarrassing disclosures

from leaked documents alleging financial cover-ups and internal feuds.

But the conclave appeared more swayed by Bergoglio's reputation for compassion on issues such as poverty and the effects of globalization, and his fealty to traditional church teachings such as opposition to birth control.

His overriding image, though, is built around his leaning toward austerity. The motto chosen for his archdiocese is "Miserando Atque Eligendo," or "Lowly but Chosen."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 25th birthday to the wonderful, amazing, and beautiful Ruth Calvo, who is celebrating her birthday on March 15, 2013. We wish you true peace, joy, and love to surround you always. From your friends and Life In The Son family.

PING

From Page 1

was calm and leaned slightly forward while sitting on the defense table, looking intently at the judge during the sentencing.

For the two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, the defendant was sentenced to the total maximum of 60 years, to be served without the possibility of parole.

Santos was given credit for 669 days of time served. He was required to register as a sex offender.

Santos was 61 at the time of his arrest. With the sentence, his expected release will be in 2071 at the age of 121.

Camacho took special note of the victim's courage and bravery to testify in open court, in front of strangers, and talk about all the things that Santos did to her.

The judge recalled how the child used a tiny finger to point out Santos in court, the person she called "Grandpa Ping" and how he took her into his apartment and sexually abused her.

Camacho said the violence done to the girl was so severe that nine days after the incident, doctors at the Commonwealth Health Center could still see the signs.

AG

From Page 3

preclude the delegation from appropriating money for the land claim.

"I also understand this is not the only land judgment and that causes concern. Because how do we pay one when we have others in the same position? And how do we do right by one and ignore everything else that...we all know exist? And I think part of my answer to that question is we have to start paying this at some point...This case [is] particularly disheartening because of the age of it, because of the age of the person that's owed, because it's such a small judgment in comparison [to others]... That makes it very hard to justify the continued lack of payment," she told lawmakers.

The Legislature has yet to appropriate money to pay the government's to-

Even after he became Argentina's top church official in 2001, he never lived in the ornate church mansion where Pope John Paul II stayed when visiting, preferring a simple bed in a downtown building, warmed by a small stove on frigid weekends when the building turned off the heat. For years, he took public transportation around the city, and cooked his own meals. He likes to drink mate, a traditional South American tea. He rises at 5:30 a.m. and starts work at 7.

CATHOLICS

From Page 1

elected pontiff following the stunning resignation of Pope Benedict XVI last month. He has chosen the name of Pope Francis.

Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) also welcomed Pope Francis' election as the Holy Father of the Catholic Church, which she said is a joyous and momentous occasion.

"The selection of the first Latin American and Jesuit pope is historic and speaks to the universality of the Catholic Church. As a cardinal, Pope Francis was known for his humility and his work on behalf of the poor and those suffering and in need," she said in a statement.

Jimenez disclosed that he was up since 4am yesterday to follow con-

clave updates. He was awake when the 76-year-old Bergoglio delivered his first blessing Wednesday morning from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at 5am local time, allowing Jimenez to mention the good news during the 6am Eucharistic Mass he officiated at the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

"I thank God for Pope Francis as the 266th successor of St. Peter," Jimenez said.

Jimenez said the new pope, who embraced simplicity and faith in his life and ministry, sends a "clear message" in his shepherding role with his chosen name, reaching out to the poor and disadvantaged like what St. Francis of Assisi, his namesake, did.

"Coming from Latin America, he knows and understands the plight of the poor and the oppressed," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Jimenez said he is also pleased to have a Jesuit serve at the helm of the Catholic Church.

"Although Jesuits are not known for taking high positions in the church, they are known for their work in education," said Jimenez. "He is intellectually gifted and has a heart of a true shepherd guiding his flock. He is down-to-earth and very pastoral in his approach to ministry."

Jimenez urged the Catholic faithful in the CNMI to pray that another good news will arrive soon in the form of a new bishop who will lead the diocese.

The Northern Marianas is entering its fourth year of not having a bishop following the resignation in April 2009 of Bishop Emeritus Tomas Camacho.

"While we don't really know when will this happen, I ask our parishioners to continue to pray for this intention," said Jimenez.

CUSTOMS

From Page 1

this relationship strong," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

Muña's resignation comes at a time when Customs' personnel count has gone down to a critical level. Its K-9 unit no longer functions due to the lack of any certified handler for its drug- and bomb-detector dogs since June 2012.

Sablan, who worked at the Division of Customs for 14 years before becoming a lawmaker, said the outgoing director plans to meet today with all Customs personnel, including two that were designated to serve on the joint NMI task force with the Drug Enforcement Administration, and one other that's assigned to the local anti-narcotics task force.

"We're hoping that these three customs officers will not be recalled from those task forces," he said.

The freshman lawmaker said he will continue to push for more funding for Customs, adding that he has gotten more support for this in the last few days.

Muña, in a separate interview, said he has made a lot of positive changes

in the division since becoming the Customs director in 2006. Those changes included cost reduction so that they would be able to live within their means.

"There will always be differences in leadership style," he added.

Muña said he was offered yesterday a post at the Veterans Affairs Office. But he said he will turn in his resignation today.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said yesterday, "At this time, the current director has yet to submit a resignation letter. Once a resignation is received, the secretary will then have to either appoint an acting director or a new director."

Saipan Tribune sources said that former Customs director Joe C. Mafnas, who is still with the Department of Finance, will replace Muña.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), for his part, said he would want to ensure that Customs will have full-time employee positions and funding to hire K9 handlers.

Sablan said he is also drafting a resolution urging Gov. Eloy S. Inos to continue the NMI-DEA partnership to help

combat drugs in the community.

Sources said the market price for a gram of "ice" on Saipan, for example, has gone down to a few hundred dollars from an average of \$1,400, an indication that there is a large supply on island.

The Customs K-9 unit has been idle for at least nine months now due to the resignations of all certified handlers of drug- and bomb-detector dogs. Customs cited lack of funding among the reasons for not replacing the certified dog handlers that left; the last one was before the end of June 2012.

That has resulted in four highly trained dogs sitting idle. The dogs are used to detect drugs and explosives in incoming cargo, luggage, and passengers.

For now, Customs personnel manually inspect these incoming cargo, luggage and passengers, although the inspection time is longer than when they had the aid of these drug- and bomb-sniffing dogs.

The Customs' K9 program, which has been receiving federal funds, used to train dog handlers not only in the CNMI but also from Palau and American Samoa.

tal outstanding and unpaid judgments and settlements, now at more than \$27 million excluding accruing interests, based on data from the Office of the Attorney General.

These government obligations go as far back as November 2004.

On March 1, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman granted Quitagua's request for a writ of execution and ordered the Bank of Guam, Bank of Hawaii, and First Hawaiian Bank to release and deliver to Quitagua's lawyer the funds they are holding that belong to the CNMI government. That writ on government funds has been stayed.

The CNMI Supreme Court also ordered the AG and assistant attorney general Charles E. Brasington to explain why they should not be sanctioned for misleading the court by filing two similar motions in the high court and lower court in connection with the Quitagua land compensation claim.

DCCA's Faisao out, Commerce's Igisomar remains

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos accepted yesterday the courtesy resignation of Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao effective at the end of this week, while declining the courtesy resignation of Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar, press secretary Angel

Demapan said yesterday.

Demapan said the governor has selected Division of Youth Services director Laura Ogu-moro to serve as acting DCCA secretary beginning on Monday, March 18.

A permanent DCCA secretary has yet to be named, for submission to the Senate for advice and consent.

Saipan Tribune sources said

a House member has been eyeing the DCCA secretary post but the Inos administration is mum about the issue at this time. If and when the House member assumes the DCCA post, a special election must be held in the precinct where the lawmaker hails from.



Faisao

Demapan said the governor declined yesterday Igisomar's resignation "and has asked him to continue serving [as] secretary of the Department of Commerce."

The press secretary also said the governor has yet to decide on the courtesy resignation submitted by De-

partment of Public Works Secretary Anthony A. Camacho.

The three-week-old Inos administration continues to review the performance reports that Cabinet members and agency heads submitted. Sources said former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente will also be heading a government agency and another former Cabinet member may go

back to his old post.

So far, the Inos administration has also confirmed keeping Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas, and Workforce Investment Agency director Edith Deleon Guerrero.

Police chief wants to rid DPS of illegal drug users

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

One way to clean up the Department of Public Safety is to get rid of personnel who are found positive for using illegal drugs, according to DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero.

"I'm sorry, but it is just not the profession for anyone who is tested positive for drugs or any other [illegal] substance," Deleon Guerrero said in an interview with reporters last week.

He said a drug testing program is too expensive and that he can never be assured 100 percent that a person who tests positive for drug use will not do it again.

He believes the solution is to

put in place a law that will allow the department to release employees once they test positive for illegal drugs.

He disclosed that he has been talking this over with Rep. Chris Leon Guerrero (Covenant-Saipan), a former police officer who is also pushing for legislation to make drug testing mandatory at DPS.

Deleon Guerrero explained that DPS is part of the central government—a line item agency and not an autonomous one that can just create its own drug policy.

DPS bases its drug policy on Office of Personnel Management regulations.

Under the OPM's drug policy, if somebody were to volun-

tarily submit to a drug test and tests positive, the agency has to make that person undergo drug treatment, among other things.

"In essence, it affords a lot of rights to employees [to] get around what we would probably prefer not to do," he said.

The commissioner said the testing being carried out at DPS right now is random.

Deleon Guerrero believes that DPS is one agency "that quite frankly" needs to be tested regularly for drugs so that they can determine who is actually clean and who is not.

"I'm hoping that legislation

is introduced sometime soon. And we would like that legislation passed before Police Week this year, which is scheduled for May," he said.

The commissioner stressed that it is not that nobody is being tested now, but the testing is not occurring as frequently as he would like it to be.

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Arctic Circle sues Rhode Island bank over \$155K break-up fees

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Arctic Circle Air Co. is suing the Rhode Island-based Independence Bank over the bank's demand for payment of \$155,000 in "break-up fees."

Arctic Circle Air Co., through counsel Michael W. Dotts, sued Independence Bank for alleged violation of the Commonwealth Consumer Protection Act.

The cargo and passengers airline asked the Superior Court to issue a judgment declaring that the company is not liable for any "break-up fees" to the bank.

Arctic Circle also wants the court to issue an injunction preventing the bank from enforcing its liens while the lawsuit is pending.

The plaintiff asked the court to order Independence Bank to release its liens from the company's aircraft once the court action is concluded.

Arctic Circle is also demanding unspecified damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

According to the complaint, Arctic Circle and Independence Bank agreed on a \$600,000 interim loan in 2011.

Dotts said the interim loan was made to Arctic Circle by Independence Bank while the bank was attempting to obtain

a \$3-million loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for Arctic Circle.

The lawyer said that, in 2011 the Commonwealth Development Authority was interested in investing in Arctic Circle and sent \$600,000 to Independence Bank.

CDA's \$600,000, Dotts said, ended up being used as collateral by Independence Bank for its interim loan to Arctic Circle.

On Nov. 30, 2012, Arctic Circle advised Independence Bank that the company did not want the bank to pursue the loan.

Dotts alleged that Independence Bank then applied the \$600,000 provided by CDA to pay the interim loan.

Dotts said that after Arctic Circle instructed Independence Bank to discontinue pursuing the loan, the bank asserted that the company owed about \$155,000 in "break-up fees."

The bank's assertion, Dotts said, was apparently based on a letter agreement dated May 29, 2012, that specified "break-up fees."

According to Dotts, the May 29 letter agreement was superseded and replaced by letter agreements in August and October 2012, and commitment letters in September and November 2012, none of which

provide for "break-up fees."

Dotts said that Independence Bank has refused to release liens on Arctic Circle's aircraft until "break-up fees" are paid, in violation of the Commonwealth Consumer Protection Act.

Dotts said that after the expiration of the interim loan, Independence Bank demanded that Arctic Circle pay the \$600,000, plus \$155,000 in "break-up fees."

The lawyer pointed out that there was no mention made in the promissory note and security agreements that Arctic Circle was obligated to pay "break-up fees."

In December 2012, Arctic Circle president Tony Pellegrino disclosed during a CDA board meeting that their company has turned down the \$3-million loan offer from Independence Bank, saying that the proposal came with "too much restrictions."

A day after Pellegrino's announcement, Independence Bank business development director Michael Sammartino issued a statement, saying that Arctic Circle already closed the loan.

Sammartino said that Arctic Circle now owes the bank a tremendous amount of fees and that they will collect them.

Saint Patrick's Day

Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign

March 17, 2013

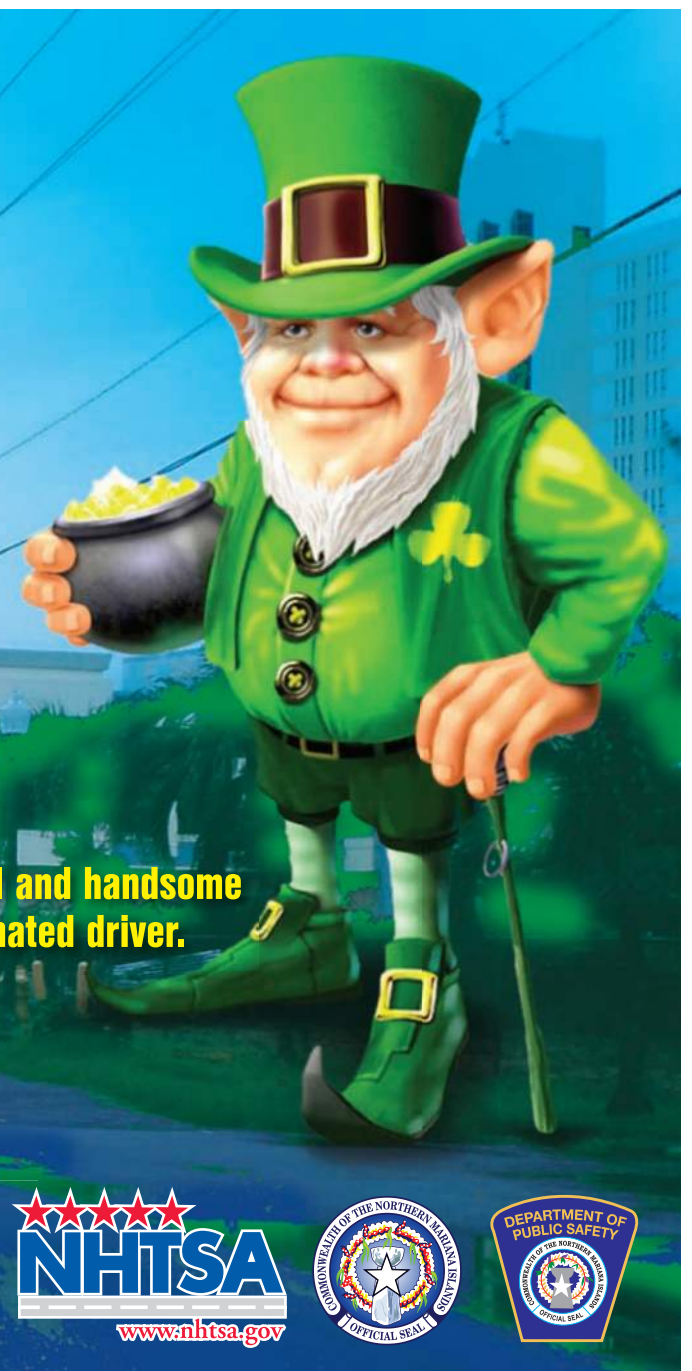


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PSS: More students using drugs, alcohol

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For the first time in a public event, the Public School System admitted that besides the recurring challenge of overcrowding in classrooms due to the system's limited budget, another alarming concern is the lack of student discipline, with more students bringing drugs and alcohol to schools.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., disclosed during Wednesday's legislative summit that issues about the student discipline can also be attributed to the lack of school staff who can guide and assist students with their needs.

PSS has over 10,000 students this school year.

Despite having only a "very small" percentage of students referred for counseling, Sablan said the absence of more school counselors, truant officers, and staff is making life difficult for PSS.

"Student discipline is so small (0.041 percent)...but yet very challenging because we see a rise in drug and alcohol use. Students are bringing drugs and alcohol to schools. Some students are high, some students are drunk," Sablan told a crowd of mostly lawmakers and education officials during the five-hour legislative summit.

Sablan issued an internal memorandum among school leaders in November 2011 regarding the increasing number of students using drugs and marijuana on campuses. She reiterated the system's zero tolerance policy on drug possession and marijuana use in all campuses, especially public high schools.

Saipan Tribune learned that there was a plan that year for unannounced drug checks in all high schools and junior high schools using the Department of Customs' drug detector dogs but that did not happen.

At Hopwood Junior High School, principal Jonas Barcinas said his school has about 20 "repeat offenders" this school year but mostly for using tobacco and betel-but chewing on campus. This is also a decline from last school year's over 40 "offenders."

Sablan also disclosed that PSS is seeing continued instances of bullying among students.

Another PSS challenges on student discipline is the discovery that many are already betel-nut chewers.

"We see betel-nut chewers as young as kindergarteners! All this are discipline issues that are against board policy... drugs and alcohol are illegal for students," said Sablan.

She expressed hope that her revelations will galvanize lawmakers to give PSS the budget it needs.

Since budget cuts were im-



Sablan

plemented at PSS, filling replacement positions and hiring new support staff have been affected. Schools' budget constraints hampered their ability to hire vice principals, counselors, classroom teachers, support staff, and program managers.

PSS is also dealing with classroom overcrowding, with teacher-to-student ratio of up to 1:32 such as at Garapan Elementary School. The ideal ratio is 25:1.

Sablan also bared the schools' lack of necessary materials and equipment such as for chemistry and math laboratories.

Operating career technology programs such as the trades program, she said, is also just "too expensive" to continue at this time.

Despite upgrades in electrical and air-conditioning units, students are only allowed to use these equipment up to four hours daily.

Sablan said that PSS' sufferings can only be remedied if an adequate budget will be appropriated for education. PSS proposes a \$40-million budget for next fiscal year, with the primary aim to restore 100 positions it lost last school year.

Sablan said that the increasing number of enrollees in public schools is beyond the system's control as it is mandated to accommodate all children who want to avail of a free education.

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**Showtime: 7:00 a.m.
Tee Time: 8:00 a.m.**

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Cash Prizes for Top Golfers / Great Raffle Prizes
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\$90

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FOA sets auditions for 'Miss Saigon'

The Friends of the Arts will be presenting Claude-Michel Schönberg and Alain Boublil's *Miss Saigon* on May 17, 18, and 19. Interested performers and would-be performers are invited to try out. The second round of auditions will be held at the Dolphin Theater in Marianas High School on Thursday, March 14, from 6pm to 8pm with the final auditions on Sunday, March 17, from 5pm to 7pm. Come and try out! **(FOA)**

Kagman High progress reports out

Kagman High School progress reports for the north villages will be distributed at Tanapag Elementary School

from 2pm to 4:30pm. For further questions, call 237-3907. **(PR)**

PTA meeting at MHS next week

Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend the next Marianas High School PTA meeting Tuesday, March 19, at 6pm in the Dolphin Theater. The agenda includes performances by our award-winning MHS students, campus beautification, graduation, and other important matters affecting our school and our students. **(MHS)**

DUI checkpoints on Sunday

As part of the 2013 National Campaign for St. Patrick's Day, the Department of Public

Safety will be conducting DUI/sobriety checkpoints on Sunday, March 17, 2013.

The first will be from 4:30pm to 5:45pm along Beach Road Chalan Laulau by Dr. Kaipat's residence. The second will be from 6:30pm to 7:45pm along Chalan Pale' Arnold Chalan Laulau by IT&E. Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes).

This activity is part of the department's effort to deter, detect and apprehend impaired drivers, and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are wearing proper restraining devices, seatbelts, or car seats.

Traffic officers will also be conducting high visibility enforcement, and laser (speed detection) enforcement between 8pm and 10pm along Chalan Pale' Arnold and Monsignor Guerrero highways. **(DPS)**

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on March 15-16, from 2pm to 2am.

The general public—espe-

cially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical-mile radius on all quadrants. **(PR)**

CCA board to meet on March 19

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its board meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. **(CCA)**

UOG to host Marianas History Conference

The 2013 Marianas History Conference, "One Archipelago, Many Stories: Integrating Our Narratives," will be held in Guam on Aug. 30-31, 2013. Abstracts for papers and posters may be submitted at guampedia.com by April 3, 2013. The Guampedia website also accepts conference registration with an early registration fee of \$25 or \$10 for students with a valid ID. The number of registrants will be capped at 220. Late registration is \$40.

For more information, visit www.guampedia.com/the-2nd-marianas-history-conference, or contact Dr. Anne Perez Hattori (ahattori@uguam.uog.edu) or Dr. Michael Clement (mclement@uguam.uog.edu). **(UOG)**

Prayer to the HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit Thou who makes me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. **AMEN.**

Say this prayer for three days without mentioning the favor you are asking for. After the third day, the wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this prayer as soon as your favor has been granted.



American Red Cross

Citizen CPR & Disaster Training

Date: Saturday, March 23rd
Time: 8:00AM – 9:00AM (CPR Training)*
 9:00AM – 12:00PM (Disaster Training)*
Where: Kanoa Resort, Seaside Hall
Fee: \$7 Per Person

(includes refreshments and certification card)

Call NMI Red Cross Chapter at 234-3459 For Reservation

Space is limited. Sign up today!

First Come First Serve Basis.

*This is an introductory course. Call the chapter to register for advance classes.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Mar. 15, 2004

Governor, consumer counsel OK'd as intervenors in PTI-MTC process

Gov. Juan N. Babauta and the Attorney General's consumer counsel have been recognized by the Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission as "intervenorers" in the Pacific Telecom Inc-Verizon purchase deal. The decision was unanimously reached by the commissioners during an executive session Friday evening where they voted on a petition, in effect giving the governor and the consumer counsel rightful standing to argue their concerns over the deal but subject to limitations. "So in effect they (governor and the consumer counsel) are permitted to be part of the process," said CTC executive director Adam Turner, moments after the voice vote. "The process will go on until the standards of the law are met and the protection of consumers are assured."

Unified effort sought to tackle 'stateless' children

The Babauta administration and the House of Representatives have agreed to unify their efforts in assisting CNMI "stateless" children get U.S. citizenship. Gov. Juan N. Babauta, in an interview, said he has discussed the matter with House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, who he said was amenable to the plan. "I have asked the Speaker and he basically agreed that we would work together on this. The key here is to get an accurate listing of the individuals," he said. The lower chamber had held public hearings, met with concerned parties and heard issues surrounding their plight with the goal of helping them obtain U.S. citizenship.

Mar. 15, 2005

Poker collection transferred to Commerce

Citing a lack of personnel, the Department of Finance has temporarily relinquished its duty to collect poker and amusement fees, turning over this responsibility to the Department of Commerce. In a memorandum of agreement, Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig transferred the enforcement of poker/amusement machines and cash register revenue laws to Commerce, saying his department is acutely understaffed to do the collection. He said he only has two personnel assigned to go after poker operators. This situation, he said, has resulted in the government collecting poker and amusement revenues "below expectations."

Minority: Part-time initiative 'flawed'

House minority leader Arnold I. Palacios considers the proposed part-time initiative as "flawed," citing that it lacks provisions addressing the part-time issue. "It says part-time Legislature but it doesn't tell you how part-time is part-time. It doesn't tell you how many sessions or meetings to conduct. So what's part-time for them? This proposal is flawed," said Palacios in an interview yesterday. As for the initiative's primary aims to reduce the Legislature's cost, "there's no need to amend the Constitution," he said. Further, Palacios said he is opposed to the proposal "because I don't work part-time."

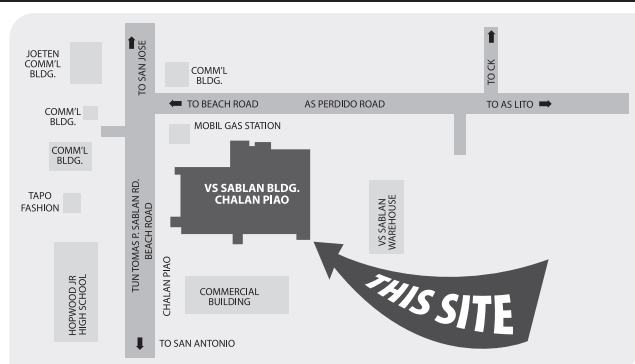
Mar. 15, 2006

'Hopwood move should not cost govt a dime'

Hopwood Junior High School principal Jim Brewer said he would only be amenable to relocate the school to another location if the government would not spend a dime on the project. In an interview yesterday morning with the Saipan Tribune, the principal said investors should be the one to shoulder the expense of relocating the largest junior high school in the CNMI. "I would urge the government not spend for the project. Everything should be paid for by hotel investors. Let them foot the bill," said Brewer. He added that news last week about an international luxury hotel company wanting to use Hopwood as the location of a new hotel on Saipan was a surprise not only to him but also to the Public School System's Central Office.

Munson orders arrest of intercepted fishing vessel

The federal court yesterday ordered the arrest of a foreign fishing vessel that was intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard for allegedly engaging in illegal fishing in the CNMI waters. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson directed the U.S. Marshal to arrest the FF/V Chuan Fa Sheng No. 128, a 100-foot Taiwanese "long-line" fishing vessel. Munson also commanded the U.S. Marshal to arrest the boat's engines, machinery, tackle and appurtenances. The judge issued the order after the U.S. government, through assistant U.S. attorney Mikel W. Schwab, filed a complaint for forfeiture of the vessel.

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Deadline for Bank of Guam scholarships today

Today, March 15, 2013, is the deadline for applications to be submitted for the Bank of Guam IFIT Scholarship.

Applications are available for the Bank of Guam IFIT Scholarship which makes \$2,000 available for five graduating seniors to attend a U.S. accredited four year college or university. The scholarship also includes a paid summer internship at the Bank's branches.

To be eligible for the program, applicants must:

1. Be U.S. citizens who reside in Guam, the CNMI, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, or San Francisco, California;
2. Be high school seniors, Class of 2013, (copies of transcripts and SAT/ACT scores required) from an accredited high school with a 3.5 grade point average.
3. Submit the original, num-

bered application by March 15, 2013 to Bank of Guam, ATTN: Marketing Department;

4. Submit three (3) letters of recommendation, one from a reference of choice;
5. Submit answers to four essay questions.

The scholarship will be available for use at any four-year U.S. accredited college or university, and would be earmarked to those students pursuing degrees

in business, finance, accounting, economics or related majors (can be multi-disciplinary).

Ten semifinalists will be selected by April, who will then be required to submit additional documents, including an acceptance letter to a U.S. accredited four year college or university.

Lou A. Leon Guerrero, Bank of Guam board chair, president, and chief executive officer stated, "We are very proud to offer

graduating high school seniors an opportunity to continue their education at an accredited college or university. Given Bank of Guam's longstanding service and commitment to higher education for its communities, it is a privilege to continue this commitment."

Last year's awardees were graduates of Guam's Notre Dame High School, Academy of Our Lady of Guam, and

Southern High. Additionally, graduates from Saipan's Kagman High and Pohnpei's Seventh Day Academy won the scholarships and paid internships.

Applications are available at all Bank of Guam branches and the Customer Service Department in Hagatna branch lobby. They have also been distributed to Guam's high schools. Only originals will be accepted. **(BOG)**



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The drone future

They're small, inexpensive and capable of feats that once belonged to the realm of science fiction—and they're here to stay. The advent of drones is one of the most significant technological advances of our time.

These pilotless, remote-controlled aircraft have been a boon to the war against terrorist enemies in South Asia. They were a key to our successful intervention in Libya. With great promise for law enforcement, they also have been deployed by the Department of Homeland Security to detect people illegally crossing this nation's southern border.

But as last week's filibuster by U.S. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., dramatized, these machines also evoke serious concerns. In the realm of the war on terrorism, the fear is that, having been used on foreigners and even American citizens involved with al-Qaida, they may be used to kill Americans on U.S. soil without a hearing or trial.

"The Fifth Amendment protects you ... from a king placing you in the tower, but it should also protect you from a president that might kill you with a drone," Paul said.

Civil libertarians fear surveillance drones will become so common that even law-abiding citizens will find it impossible to escape the unblinking eye in the sky.

The warnings are not baseless. The Obama administration has needlessly fueled the worst suspicions with its secrecy about its policy in using drones against enemies. Only recently did it make public a Justice Department white paper—and then only after the document leaked to the media. And the White House has yet to fully disclose the legal basis for its actions.

But the rules are not expansive—limiting targets to senior figures in al-Qaida and affiliated groups who are involved in planning attacks and cannot be captured. This last condition, Paul might have noticed, would exclude almost anyone on U.S. soil, citizen or not, since apprehending a suspect here is far easier than in Yemen or Somalia.

It was nonetheless reassuring to hear the admission that Paul finally coaxed from Attorney General Eric Holder, who said the president does not have the right to use a drone to kill an American "not engaged in combat" in this country. Only in extraordinary circumstances is it possible to imagine such use—say, a citizen working for al-Qaida who hijacks a plane and steers it toward a skyscraper.

As for police drones, it's not too early to start talking about how they may be used to enhance public safety without violating individual privacy. Because of their low cost, quiet operation and maneuverability, drones could be a great boon to crime fighting, letting cops monitor criminals far more intensively than they can today.

But for the same reason, they could significantly impinge on privacy. Voices may argue that drones are technologically different—but their deployment not terribly different in principle—from helicopters, cruisers and fixed cameras that allow police officers to monitor citizens.

Drones are clearly a big part of the future. Now is a good time to address what that future will be.

©2013 Chicago Tribune



On obstruction of justice

The Superior Court has issued penal summons for the former governor and an arrest warrant for the deputy commissioner of DPS for obstruction of justice, among other charges.

Apparently, the former governor can no longer shield himself from his declaration, "I am the rule." He'll find out before the court of law that there's the flip side: The equal application of laws to all citizens under a democratic republic where there's no "exception" to the rule.

Obstruction of justice is a serious offense. It may be recalled that convicts in the infamous Watergate case were jailed for this very offense. You interfere with the operations of law and you're in for a long bout with the legal system.

Three police officers have already been arrested for their role in the impending case. It relates to the failed attempt to shield the delivery of penal summons to the former AG at the airport here a year ago.

It isn't difficult placing the dots on the most important query: Was the former AG given "direct orders" to exit? Who gave direct orders to leave the island? What's the motive behind such orders? Who ordered police officers to shield the former AG? These incriminating queries will be answered with real clarity in court hopefully soon.

The truth shall be revealed and it is my view that those who were intimidated to carry out what's basically illegal would be exonerated for following orders under duress.

Fitial failed to lead and left behind historic depravity and subterranean economic misery. Fortunately, there isn't a cloud in the blue skies of paradise to hide his pernicious corrupt ways so it blurs our vision once more. The naked king must now do his own rain and fire dance, alone!

Reality check quickly sets in as each officer goes soul-searching how to exit the involuntary legal mess that hailed from the pinnacle of command or some strange voice from a mountaintop. Careers and family livelihood are now on the brink of total ruin or destruction for following orders that were illegal from the outset. Is the order to violate the law worth it?

Case of special prosecutor

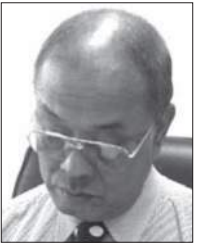
As the two giants prepare for their day in court—a former governor and a former AG—it's good to know that in the flurry of motions and counter-motions from legal eagles in court that we are on the right side of the brewing controversy.

Specifically, it seems unusual, if not unprecedented, for a court to be appointing a conflicted special prosecutor. Where under the CNMI Constitution is the CNMI Superior Court granted the authority to appoint a special prosecutor? Isn't this normally the role and function of the AG's Office or the Legislature, the latter by way of a joint resolution? Isn't the appointment unprecedented?

It seems, in my view that a court-appointed special prosecutor by a judge poised to hear the case suspiciously compromises the defendants' due process rights. I find this arrangement highly suspect

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



and absurd where the "conflicted" special prosecutor and the judge would try their new courtroom theatrics to railroad what could very well be legally questionable or completely unconstitutional proceedings.

Wasn't Hasselback once under the employ of former AG Ed Buckingham? Wasn't his termination the source of the brewing controversy where both engaged in a pissing contest? It's all an ego trip, isn't it? Isn't the AG immune from legal decisions per pertinent constitutional or statutory provisions? So why would we chase a silhouette down an empty road?

To ensure justice in protecting the due process rights of defendants, Hasselback should be removed and replaced by an outside attorney without connection to the case. Otherwise, the issue could be one of a prolonged battle on procedural errors that could have been avoided from the outset. Call it justice!

I'm not on anybody's side other than to ensure that procedural issues are done legally with full constitutional and statutory scaffold, with the goal to lessening derailing of the case as a result of convenient inadvertence.

Use of 'segregated' funds

While the Legislature has the rightful authority to introduce any legislation, it is equally prohibited from appropriating indigenous funds by pertinent constitutional provisions.

Let's do a cake walk: The Legislature isn't authorized to tinker with what's known as "segregated" funds of the Department of Public Land. Its only role is to read submissions "for informational purposes" only.

The Constitution also addresses islands placed under conservation such as Mañagaha for the cultural enhancement of the indigenous people. Landing fees that originate from the indigenous island in question become a part of the "segregated" funds of DPL.

The intent of the landing fees is for the enhancement of our crown jewel—Mañagaha Island—visited by more than 80 percent of tourists who come to the NMI annually. Every so many years, the money is spent to rebuild or replace dilapidated visitor facilities, maintenance and other services vital to ensuring the beauty, cleanliness, and security of our crown jewel. It's called enhancement!

Therefore, the use of any portion of the landing fee would not only be unconstitutional but illegal per an NMI Supreme Court decision. See **JUSTICE** on Next Page

Why Guam goes the speed of light

You’re probably wondering why I’m wearing a lab coat today, especially since the tails are hanging in the sand as I sit in my beach chair. True, a white coat and zoris makes for a strange combination. But it’s helping me get in the scientific frame of mind today, since we’re going to get all geeky and take a look at something called a “light-year.”

This idea comes from an alert reader who was talking with me about cosmic stuff. As the world progresses further into the space age the term “light-year” comes up more often in the news. So we should know it. It’s easy: A light-year is about 5.9 trillion miles.

Despite the term “year” in there, it’s a unit of distance, not of time. A trillion, incidentally, is a 1 with 12 zeros after it. That’s a lot of zeros to juggle. So it just goes to show you how our puny earthling miles are just too short to gracefully deal with the grand scale of the universe; hence, the light-year, a bigger, handier yardstick.

Ever see an old movie where the tribe in the jungle says the next village is “one day” away? They mean a one-day walk. As for the cosmic jungle, scientists took the same approach. But instead of thinking about how far a guy walks in a day, they thought about how far light runs in a year. Before we dig into this more, I’m thinking you can win a bar bet on this stuff. If, that is, you can remember Guam’s area code. It’s 671, just a notch up from Saipan’s 670. By happy cosmic coincidence, the speed of light is 671 million mph. If that scintillating fact doesn’t score you a cold brew, then nothing will.

The eternal disputes of the Dead Sea Scrolls

By JOHN J. COLLINS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In June 1954, a small advertisement ran in the *Wall Street Journal*: “Biblical manuscripts dating back to at least 200 BC are for sale.” The commercial offering was the start of a long and controversial path for the Dead Sea Scrolls, a cache of fragmentary writings in Hebrew and Aramaic (with a few in Greek) that were found in caves near the Dead Sea between 1947 and 1956. The ancient documents include early copies of almost every book of the Hebrew Bible and have been called, justifiably, the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century. But that is one of the few things scholars have agreed on. The first controversy followed fast on the scrolls’ discovery in the late 1940s, in what is now known as the West Bank. The region was in turmoil in the wake of the United Nations vote establishing a partition plan to create independent Jewish and Palestinian states. The manuscripts offered in the *Wall Street Journal* had been brought to the United States by a Syrian archbishop, who didn’t want the scrolls to end up in Israeli hands. But it turned out that the purchaser, unbeknown to the sellers, was acting on behalf of the state of Israel, and so the first scrolls discovered ended up in Israel and can still be seen in the Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem.

The great trove of texts found after Israeli independence, however, was under Jordanian control, and no Jewish scholars were allowed on the official team of editors who had exclusive access to the manuscripts. After the 1967 war, all the scrolls came under Israeli control, but ownership is disputed to this day. In the 1980s, scholars grew impatient with the long delay in publishing the scrolls, which meant that access to them was severely restricted. That controversy came to a head in 1991 when the editor in chief, John Strugnell, was forced to resign after he was quoted in an Israeli newspaper as saying that Judaism was a horrible religion that ought not to exist. Strugnell, an alcoholic who also suffered from bipolar disorder, was not of sound mind when he gave the interview. He had a good record of working with Israeli scholars and was the first to include some of them on the editorial team, but his position was obviously untenable. The publication of the scrolls, however, remained a contentious issue, even when access to them was no longer restricted.

JUSTICE

From Page 10

cision affirming how “segregated” funds are disposed. The Legislature must think outside the box and shy away from the instant soba mindset by trying to violate the very intent of the founding fathers of the NMI Constitution on the special treatment it has given “segregated” funds. And if perchance you still need another cake walk on this issue, I’d be more than happy to share some moments with you. If you wish to brave the violation of constitutional provision as it relates to DPL’s segregated funds, is it my fault that you haven’t come to terms with the existence of constitutional limitations? Get real, people! Show me that your left hand knows what the right hand is doing.

Anyway, let light run its 671 million mph for an entire year, and it will go, yes, 5.9 trillion miles. This totally outruns the human scale of things. You and I will never, ever, travel as far as a light-year, or anything close to it. If we drove a rocket going 25,000 mph, it would take us about 27,000 years to log merely a single light-year on the odometer. That’s a long time without a bathroom break and with the kids in the back seat fighting and asking, “Are we there yet?” No, we’re not there yet. So you little brats better simmer down before I reduce your oxygen mixtures again. Since the nearest star is about 4.2 light years away, with the cruise control set on 25,000 mph we’d have about 113,000 years to drive just to see our nearest neighbor. Sorry, but there isn’t a rocket ship big enough to hold all the beef jerky and Merle Haggard CDs necessary to sustain me for that sort of road trip. But as far as that seems on our scale, it doesn’t even wiggle the needle on the cosmic meter. The big distances in the universe are measured in the billions of light-years, just as the big distances on earth are measured in the thousands of miles. Actually, and you should skip reading this paragraph, since I might skip writing it, there are other measurements out there, such as a parsec (“parallax second”) and an “AU” (Astronomical Unit). But that’s too arcane for normal folks like us. See? I told you to skip it. Even I skipped it. Meanwhile, I, for one, am not worried that an alien space ship is going to swoop into my driveway to show up for tea and crumpets. For one thing, there’s not enough space in my driveway, since I’m repacking the wheel bearings in my truck this weekend, and any

The unauthorized publication of an important text called 4QMMT (“Some of the Works of the Law”) by Hershel Shanks in *Biblical Archaeology Review* became the subject of a lawsuit by Elisha Qimron, one of the editors to whom the text had been assigned. An Israeli court ruled against Shanks, and the trial cost him more than \$100,000. The most recent uproar about the scrolls involved Raphael Golb, son of University of Chicago professor Norman Golb. The younger Golb created more than 80 Internet aliases between 2006 and 2009 to advance his father’s views about the scrolls, and to give the impression that a large number of people were concerned that the elder Golb was not being treated fairly. More ominously, he sent out emails in the name of a leading scrolls scholar, Lawrence Schiffman, then of New York University and now of Yeshiva University, in which Schiffman supposedly confessed to plagiarizing the elder Golb. Raphael Golb was convicted in a New York court in November 2010 on charges that included identity theft and forgery, and his conviction was affirmed on appeal this year. So why have these ancient artifacts aroused such passions? To be sure, the most bitter controversies have been fueled by outsize egos and pursuit of publicity. But other discoveries, such as the Coptic texts from Nag Hammadi, have stirred no comparable passions. What makes the scrolls different is that they are the only primary

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Do the right thing

To address our deteriorating economy, our Legislature must prioritize legislation that encourages economic development customized to our unique needs. We could: ■ Offer a flat tax to foreign corporations headquartered here to compete with Hong Kong and Singapore or as similar to Bermuda as the law will allow. This would offer unimaginable opportunity to our citizens. ■ Tax foreign owned companies operating in the CNMI on 25 percent of their gross sales to fund our mismanaged public hospital while aiding citizen’s competitiveness in small business here. ■ Tax non-food imports at 25 percent, and while DFS may cringe at this strategy, its employment alone would fund our challenged public schools. ■ Employ a 6 percent sales tax with proceeds going to market the CNMI (but not to the MVA travel and buffet fund). ■ Strictly enforce CNMI investor visa regulations. ■ End the QC program, which offers nothing to CNMI residents, and minimal employment, other than funding corrupt politicians for shielding their worldwide tax liabilities. When we offer *free* taxes, we guarantee that taxpaying local citizens can’t compete in small businesses against the QC holder for 25 years. Meaning the zero tax operator will practice vertical integration and will monopolize their own providers to cut out any competitor for over a generation. What say you, governor? ■ Offer CPA’s or independent auditors a 25 percent finder’s fee on recovery of unpaid taxes (actually quite simple to do, especially to

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



alien worth his bulbous-headed space-brain won’t get within stumbling distance of a floor jack on an 15-degree slope. Only humans are that stupid. More to the point, just as there’s no space in my driveway, there’s too much space in space. Things are too far apart for me to imagine anybody getting anywhere. But if more imaginative people are awaiting interstellar SUVs, that’s fine with me. Though for all we know the Earth will be a fast-food stop. And we’ll be the food. “I’ll have a dozen People Nuggets and a hot carbon pie.” “Want fries with that?” Well, we’ve veered into mere conjecture here. So we’d better return to the practical side of things, and memorize that “671” trick to score some fun at happy hour. I’d offer to join you. But I’m busy. Thanks to this white coat, the tourists think I’m a doctor on vacation. Thus far I’ve scored \$720 in cash co-payments and a bento box for lunch. That’s not bad for an otherwise slow Friday. Not bad at all.

texts we have from Judea that date to about the time of the birth of Christianity and just before the rise of rabbinical Judaism. Consequently, they are precious evidence of the nature of Judaism at a time of enormous consequence for Western history. Scholars who control the interpretation of the scrolls can potentially have a great impact on the understanding of Judaism and Christianity, and it is the lure of such influence on the understanding of Western history that has made the scrolls a battleground nonpareil of academic controversy. In fact, the impact of the scrolls is somewhat less than is sometimes claimed, but it is considerable nonetheless. They shed light on the Scriptures that were revered in the time of Jesus; they provide numerous parallels in detail to the New Testament; they show that a concern for exact interpretation of the law, which is characteristic of rabbinical literature, was already in place around the turn of the era; and they also show that there was considerable variety in the Judaism of the time. Nothing in the scrolls either validates or discredits Christianity or Judaism as they later evolved, but the scrolls are an invaluable source of information about a crucial juncture in the development of Western religion. *John J. Collins is a professor at Yale Divinity School and the author of The Dead Sea Scrolls: A Biography. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.*






alien-owned grocery stores). ■ Market and extend our tax incentives so wealthy persons move here. Abolishing the “Mallard Law” alone could provide enough tax revenue from several citizens to completely operate in the CNMI. ■ Introduce legislation in the U.S. Congress for a CNMI-only retiree visa so we don’t continue worsening into helpless islanders dependent on U.S. food stamps. ■ Take all steps necessary to end the land alienation restrictions and allow locals to sell their land. ■ We must greatly reduce the size and operating costs of our local government. ■ We must force HANMI and businesses here to hire citizens and increase the minimum wage. ■ Our government and governors must stop coddling the interests of criminals and we can start by asking for federal assistance in apprehending the recent fugitives, all guilty of harming our Commonwealth. ■ We must insist on enforcing the Covenant commitment to building an equal standard of living and quality of life for our citizens until our children enjoy the healthcare and education available in the U.S. mainland. We proved unable to handle labor and immigration, but perhaps with superior guidance, we could still exploit other financial avenues to opportunity.

Ron Hodges
Puerto Rico, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 80

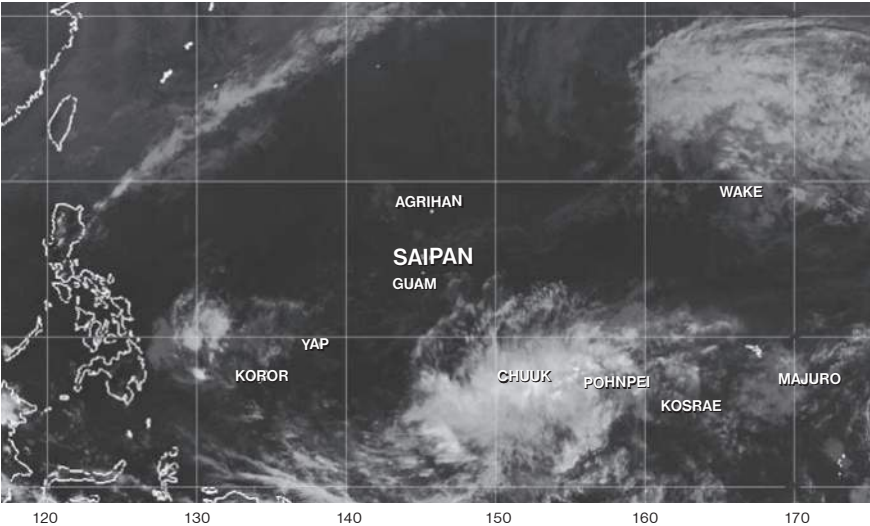
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 64
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 41
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 66
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 66
London	Showers	▲ 48 ▼ 40
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 79 ▼ 56
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 58
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 56
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 36
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 42
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 43 ▼ 37
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 58 ▼ 43
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 52 ▼ 34
Salem	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 49
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 50
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 51 ▼ 32
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 58 ▼ 41
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 44

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
4:55 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
10:32 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	
5:23 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	
11:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough heads eastward from 8N130E through a large circulation centered south of Chuuk at 3N153E then turns southeastward to end at EQ156E. Scattered showers associated with the trough are occurring south of Yap and well south of Guam between the equator and 4N from 137E to 147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the circulation are found over Chuuk and Pohnpei within 270 miles of a line from 4N150E to 8N160E. An old shear line reaches southwestward from west of Guam near 13N143E to end west of Koror at 7N130E west of 135E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring along and up to 250 miles northwest of this boundary. A shear line extends southeastward from a circulation centered southeast of Minami Tori Shima at 22N155E to southeast of Wake Island at 14N171E then turns northeastward to beyond the date line at 17N. Cloudiness and patchy rain are taking place along the shear line and northward to beyond 25N west of 165E. Isolated thunderstorms are present along the boundary and northward to beyond 25N. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms just south of Kwajalein and Majuro within 70 miles of a line from 9N162E to 5N172E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:25 AM	6:27 PM
Saturday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Sunday	6:24 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:23 AM	6:28 PM
Tuesday	6:22 AM	6:28 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:28 AM	9:24 PM
Saturday	9:12 AM	10:14 PM
Sunday	9:57 AM	11:04 PM
Monday	10:43 AM	11:54 PM
Tuesday	11:31 AM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 8, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:40am 5:30am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:25am 9:15am Daily UA5074 11:10am 12:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:05am 7:55am Daily UA5073 9:50am 10:40am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:45am Daily DL285 6:30am 9:15am 1, 3, 5, 7 DL297 4:25pm 7:25pm Daily	SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 1, 5 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:00am 8:35am 1, 4, 5, 7	SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU7108 3:50am 7:40am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO) XF1734 11:55am 5:10pm 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:35am 9:55am 6 via GUM UA5062/191 4:40am 9:55am 3 via GUM DL287/173 6:00am 10:15pm 2, 4, 5, 7 via NRT DL287/173 6:00am 10:35pm 1, 3, 6 via NRT UA5076/183 3:10pm 8:45pm Daily via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5072/PR111 9:45pm 7:45am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5076/147 3:10pm 9:45pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.	LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com



Newly confirmed Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council member Diego L. Kaipat, center with mwaw, is flanked by his family, relatives, supporters and lawmakers for a group photo shortly after the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation confirmed his appointment on Capital Hill yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Saipan, NI delegation confirms council member from Northern Islands

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

By a vote of 20-0 with one absence, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation confirmed yesterday afternoon the appointment of Diego L. Kaipat as the third member of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council.

This makes it the first time for the municipal council to have a member who was born and raised in the Northern Islands, boosting efforts to resettle and develop the islands north of Saipan.

Kaipat, a former nurse for some 25 years, said he was born in Agrigan and grew up in Pagan.

One of his priorities is revisiting a Northern Islands resettlement and development plan as he personally supports moving back people there, he said.

Kaipat was surrounded by family, relatives, friends and supporters when delegation members voted one by one to confirm him.

Among those who testified to endorse his appointment were Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Frances Sablan and Jerome Aldan from the Northern Islands Mayor's Office.

The crowd applauded when delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) announced Kaipat's official confirmation.

"I am very...almost speechless at this time. I'm very excited, I'm happy to be confirmed as a member of the ... municipal council," Kaipat later told reporters.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos administered the oath of office for Kaipat late yesterday afternoon.

Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan nominated Kaipat to serve on the council, which


previously had two elected members: Camacho and councilwoman Antonia M. Tudela.

Kaipat said when he retired, he went back to the Northern Islands and lived there for over a year and he believes the islands are now fit for resettlement.

For several years now, government officials and residents have been talking and planning about resettling Pagan, among other Northern Islands, years after residents there were told to leave the island because of volcanic eruptions.

The Department of Public Lands earlier estimated that close to \$1 million will be needed just to engage a firm that will survey an area in Pagan that will be fit for human resettlement.

*Prayer
to the
Holy Spirit*



Holy Spirit Thou who makes me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. AMEN.

Say this prayer for three days without mentioning the favor you are asking for. After the third day, the wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this prayer as soon as your favor has been granted.

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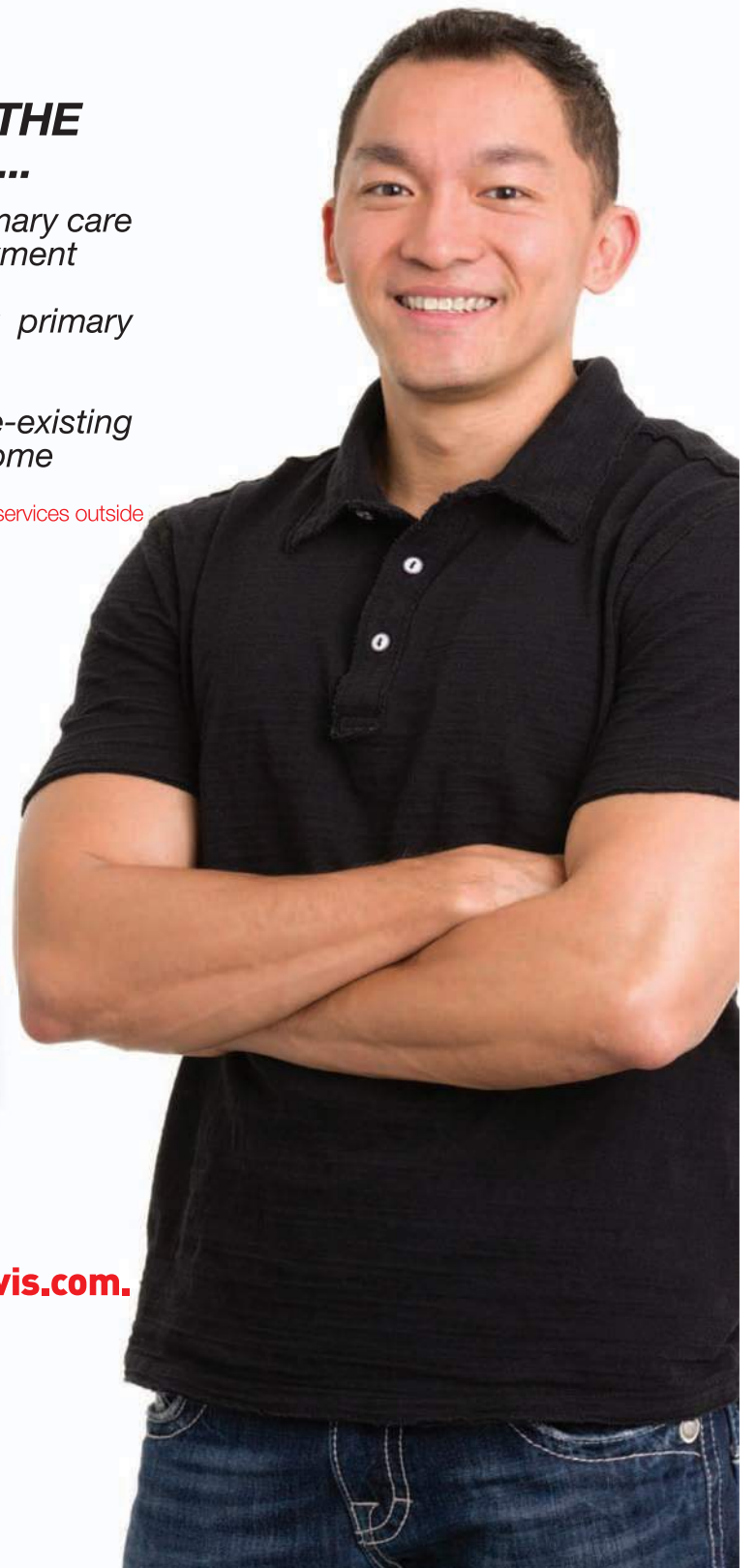
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NMC: Issues raised by accreditation commission manageable

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College described as “manageable” the issues raised by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges in its letter last month that sanctioned the college with a show-cause status.

In a statement titled “NMC response to ACCJC public disclosure notice” issued yesterday, the college said: “The issues raised in the ACCJC action letter are manageable; they can be fully addressed and the college will work diligently to do so before it submits the Show Cause Report in October 2013. Students, staff, faculty, administrators, and

regents have already stepped up their collaborative efforts to face the accreditation challenges head on.”

The statement invites the CNMI community to view and track NMC’s accreditation progress by visiting its website, www.nmcnet.edu.

On Feb. 11, the commission placed NMC under show-cause status and required it to submit a show-cause report by Oct. 15, 2013. The accredited status of the college continues during the period of show-cause.

In its action letter, the ACCJC cited two eligibility requirements and three recommendations for NMC.

The two eligibility requirements concerned administrative capacity and faculty. The

ACCJC expressed concern about the college’s lack of enough staff with appropriate preparation to support its operations. It recommended that key vacancies be filled.

The commission also noted that NMC should develop and consistently apply clear criteria in determining faculty qualifications plus the necessary performance annual evaluations on all faculty members. Further, ACCJC recommended that the library build on its successful student satisfaction survey efforts by implementing strategies to directly measure Student Learning Outcomes concerning information literacy.

The commission also recommended that the Board of

Regents structure its membership properly such that the board operates as an independent policy-making body while retaining appropriate roles and responsibilities.

“The college has moved quickly to address the team’s recommendations to fill the vacant positions of chief financial officer and director of information technology. These announcements have been revised and the college is optimistic that it will successfully fill these positions in the near future,” the statement reads. In addressing Recommendation 2, NMC said it is in the process of establishing and assessing meaningful Student Learning Outcomes in the library and other learning support services.

port services.

“The Board of Regents has taken immediate action to address concerns raised in the commission letter. In addressing Recommendation 8, the board has sought external advice on what it should do to come into compliance and is taking steps necessary to do so. The college has been proactively engaging standard teams composed of faculty, staff, and students to continue their focus on complying with accreditation and eligibility standards,” it added.

NMC said it will also carry on its work in building upon the successes and progress noted in the External Evaluation Report prepared by the evaluation team that visited the college in October 2012. Among these achievements include recognition of the college’s financial internal controls and compliance measures as measured by annual audits and the college’s commitment to its financial management process that emphasizes the linking of program and institutional planning to its financial plan.

The evaluation team also noted the extensive training of board members, the college’s efforts in revising its policies to remove content that may be procedural in nature, and that the college’s resources are sufficient to support learning programs and services and to improve institutional effectiveness.

The report of the special team from the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities, which focused on the college’s baccalaureate program in education, also noted many positive developments.

“More than ever, the college is committed to having its accreditation reaffirmed and to ensuring that the college continues in its role of helping students achieve their educational goals,” the statement adds.

Over 20K enrolled in NMC

NMC revealed that more than 20,000 people have enrolled in degree and certificate courses since its inception while over 3,000 persons have been awarded certificates and/or degrees.

Additionally, the college said it generally serves over 20,000 individuals per year through such non-credit programs like Adult Basic Education, the Community Development Institute, and the Cooperative, Research, Extensions, and Education Service.

“To ensure that its students receive high-caliber instruction and student services, NMC places the highest priority on meeting accreditation standards and eligibility requirements. After all, accreditation is a process that assures the quality of an institution and its commitment to continuous improvement,” it added.

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Cruz is new CIPA executive director

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has named Juan D. Cruz to serve as executive director of the Criminal Justice Planning Agency. Cruz's appointment does not require the advice and consent of the Senate and will take effect on Monday, March 18.

Cruz has been employed at CIPA since 1995 as a Criminal Justice Planner III and has been the acting executive director since September last year after then executive director Jerome Ierome resigned from his post. "We have made assessments

using our best judgment and believe Mr. Cruz would be the best candidate to serve as the executive director of CIPA," said Inos. "He has been successfully discharging the duties of the position since it became vacant and his many years of experience with the agency makes him the right person for the job."

In addition to attaining various continuing education certifications related to criminal justice programs and grants management, Cruz holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Washington. He is also a former Marine sergeant for the 11th Marines, 1st Marine Division in Camp Pendleton, California. *(Office of the Governor)*



COUNCILMAN KAIPAT

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is joined by Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider as he administers the oath of office for the newly-confirmed member of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, Diego Kaipat, during a brief ceremony yesterday afternoon at the Office of the Governor. Kaipat, accompanied by his wife Dami-ana, became the first resident of the Northern Islands to serve in the municipal council after his nomination by Mayor Tobias Aldan was confirmed by the Saipan & Northern Island Legislative Delegation yesterday.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Garapan robbery

NMI Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for information on a robbery incident that occurred behind Duty Free Shoppers Galleria in Garapan.

On Thursday, March 7, 2013, at about 6:45pm, the victim, an elderly Japanese male tourist, was walking behind DFS Galleria toward Garapan Elementary School. The suspect, described as a local male, about 5'6" tall, with short hair, dark complexion, wearing dark pants, and a dark shirt grabbed the victim's brown Louis Vuitton bag and fled north on Alaihai Avenue toward the school.

The victim chased the suspect but lost sight of him at the

intersection of Alaihai Avenue and Orchid St. The items stolen include: a brown Louis Vuitton bag, a black AU smartphone, a platinum Cartier ring, a silver Canon digital camera, and about \$200 cash. The total amount of the stolen items is estimated at over \$9,000. The victim was not injured in the incident.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. *(NMI Crime Stoppers)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy 18th birthday to Janece Mae C. Salas! We love you! Greetings come from Dad, Mom, Julia, and John, and Az Atmarao family, Concepcion-Crisostomo, and Villagomez-Salas families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Christine Aninzo, who is celebrating her birthday on March 15, 2013! Continue to shine brightly with your welcoming smile, loving heart, and beautiful spirit. We love you so much. Greetings come from your family and LITS family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Jackie Mims! On this special day, we wish you all the very best, all the joy you can ever have and may you be blessed abundantly today, tomorrow, and the days to come. Have a safe and wonderful one. Greetings coming from Maggie, the kids/grandchildren, and Mike.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Wishing our Mom/Grandma, Josepha Taitano Camacho, a happy birthday! May God bless you with many more birthdays to come! We love you. Greetings come from your children and grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Advanced happy birthday to our godson, Leonard Lee C. DL-Guerrero Jr., shown here with his daddy, Leonard! We hope you enjoy your day and may our good Lord bless you with many more great years ahead. We love you to the moon and back! Love, Nino Vince and Nina Loli. Greetings also come from Mommy, Daddy, Baby Leeya, and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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10:00 am - 3:00 pm

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Business

Survey finds an attitude shift among working mothers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Working mothers increasingly want full-time jobs, and tough economic times might be a big reason, according to a national survey.

In the Pew Research Center study being released Thursday, researchers saw a big spike in the share of working mothers who said they'd prefer to work full time; 37 percent said that was their ideal, up from 21 percent in 2007.

The poll comes amid a national debate on women in the workplace ignited by top Facebook executive Sheryl Sandberg, who writes in a new book about the need for women to be more professionally aggressive.

In "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead," Sandberg argues that women have not made true progress in the workplace over the past decade and that they need to raise their hands more and "lean in" if they want to land more senior positions in corporate America.

The shift toward full-time work in the Pew poll, however, coincides with the recession and may have less to do with career ambitions than with financial realities.

"Women aren't necessarily evolving toward some belief or comfort level with work," says study co-author Kim Parker, an

associate director at the center. "They are also reacting to outside forces and in this case, it is the economy."

Among women who said their financial situations aren't sufficient to meet basic expenses, about half said working full time was best for them. Of the women who said they live comfortably, only 31 percent said full time was their best situation. Melody Armstrong, 34, of Hampton, N.H., works full time and says she wouldn't have it any other way.

"It works better for my family, and for our finances," Armstrong said in an interview. "It helps pay the bills and we can

Census: Record 1 in 3 US counties are now dying

WASHINGTON (AP)—A record number of U.S. counties—more than 1 in 3—are now dying off, hit by an aging population and weakened local economies that are spurring young adults to seek jobs and build families elsewhere.

New 2012 census estimates released Thursday highlight the population shifts as the U.S. encounters its most sluggish growth levels since the Great Depression.

The findings also reflect the increasing economic importance of foreign-born residents

enjoy the lifestyle we have. We need to have two incomes."

Armstrong and her husband have six children between them, a blended family with one child off to college and a

1 in 3 US counties are now dying

baby at home. She works for Double Black Imaging, a Colorado-based company that sells medical monitors. Armstrong says her company gives her the flexibility she needs to work her

as the U.S. ponders an overhaul of a major 1965 federal immigration law. Without new immigrants, many metropolitan areas such as New York, Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh and St. Louis would have posted flat or negative population growth in the last year.

"Immigrants are innovators, entrepreneurs, they're making things happen. They create jobs," said Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican, at an immigration conference in his state last week. Saying Michigan should be a top destination for legal immigrants

sales position from home.

"I do some work early in the morning or after dinner," Armstrong says, and can adjust around her children's school and sports schedules.

1 in 3 US counties are now dying

to come and boost Detroit and other struggling areas, Snyder made a special appeal: "Please come here."

The growing attention on immigrants is coming mostly from areas of the Midwest and Northeast, which are seeing many of their residents leave after years of staying put during the downturn. With a slowly improving U.S. economy, young adults are now back on the move, departing traditional big cities to test the job market mostly in the South and West, which had sustained the biggest hits in the housing bust.



In this Thursday, April 7, 2011, file photo, Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer, speaks at a luncheon for the American Society of News Editors in San Diego.

New Samsung phone to face stronger competition

NEW YORK (AP)—Samsung Electronics is taking to the Big Apple to reveal its next big challenge to Apple Inc.: a successor to its top-selling Galaxy S III smartphone.

The Korean company has rented New York's Radio City Music Hall for an event Thursday evening. The company has hinted that it will reveal the Galaxy S IV phone. Judging by the announcement of the S III in last May, this means the new phone will be available in stores in a month or two.

It's not known what the new phone will look like or how it will differ from its predecessor, but there's speculation that

Samsung will once again increase the screen size. Every successive generation of the Galaxy line has been bigger than the one before, and the S III sports a screen that measures 4.8 inches on the diagonal, substantially larger than the iPhone 5's 4-inch screen.

In the last two years, Samsung has emerged as Apple's main competitor in the high-end smartphone market. At the same time, it has sold enough inexpensive low-end phones to edge out Nokia Corp. as the world's largest maker of phones.

The Galaxy line has Samsung's chief weapon in the fight, and it has succeeded in making

it a recognizable brand while competitors like Taiwan's HTC Corp. and Korean rival LG have stumbled. Samsung has sold 100 million Galaxy S phones since they first came out in 2010. That's still well below the 268 million iPhones Apple has sold in the same period, but Samsung's sales rate is catching up.

Research firm Strategy Analytics said the Galaxy S3 overtook Apple's iPhone 4S as the world's best-selling smartphone for the first time in the third quarter of last year, as Apple fans were holding off for the iPhone 5. The iPhone 5 took back the crown in the fourth quarter.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Behind Department of Public Safety
Bureau of Motor Vehicle, Susupe, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

March 15, 2013

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. DCCA	01/03/2013 SSm-2013-X-002	32nd Flame Tree Festival	Civic Center	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/06/2013)*
2. Mr. Choi In Sun	01/31/2013 SSm-2013-X-009	Commercial Building	Garapan	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/12/2013)*
3. Pacific Subsea Marine Inc.	02/06/2013 SPIm-2013-X-011	Dry Dock	South Sea Ramp	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (02/11/2013)*
4. DPW	02/08/2013 SSm-2013-X-012	Two Concrete Picnic Tables	Susupe	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/13/2013)*
5. Good Day Coordinating Inc.	02/11/2013 SSm-2013-X-013	Photographic Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/08/2013)*
6. DTC Saipan	02/13/2013 SSm-2013-X-014	Photographic Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/08/2013)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Kasilda P. Lukas
P.O. Box 505361
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. (670) 286-5263 /
(671) 967-8686

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

In Re The Matter
Of The Petition
To Appoint
General
Guardianship
For:

J.A.L.L.
(d.o.b. 7/4/2002)
Minor Child

By:
Kasilda P. Lukas
Petitioner

FCD GU
CIVIL
ACTION
NO.
12-0286

NOTICE
OF
HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on April 04, 2013 at 10:30a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo

Dated this 8th day of March, 2013

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Thompson Law Office, LLC
Colin M. Thompson, Esq.
J.E. Tenorio Building
PMB 917 Box 10001
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
Telephone: (670) 233-0777
Facsimile: (670) 233-0776

Attorney for Administrator

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE
ESTATE OF
HONG SUP LEE
Decedent.

FCD CIVIL ACTION NO.
13-0065

NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITION RULE 11
& 16 COM.R.PRO.

Date: May 21, 2013
Time: 1:30 pm
Judge: Hon. David A.
Wiseman

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, Sung Soo Lim, filed a Petition in the Superior Court praying that he appointed Administrator of the Estate of Hong Sup Lee, deceased to determine the heirs of the decedent and distribute any assets of decedent. The attorney of record is Colin M. Thompson, at PMB 917, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is set for May 21, 2013, in a courtroom of the Superior Court, Susupe, Saipan, at 1:30 pm. All interested person should appear at this hearing.

All person having claims against the estate, or against the decedent should file their claims with the Clerk of Court for the Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2013.

/s/Rosie Ada
Deputy Clerk of Court

Nation

4 killed at 2 upstate NY businesses; man holed up

HERKIMER, N.Y. (AP)—A man neighbors called a loner coolly walked into an upstate barbershop, asked the owner if he remembered him and then abruptly opened fire with a shotgun, killing two men in the opening salvo of a rampage that left four dead, two wounded and a heavily armed police force bunkered down around an abandoned building, police and family members said.

Police officers were fired on from the building, which used to house a bar, on Wednesday afternoon while looking for

64-year-old Kurt Myers, state police Superintendent Joseph D'Amico said. At least one officer returned fire, and later it was unknown if Myers was still alive, D'Amico said.

"We're in no rush to bring this to a conclusion," D'Amico said, adding that the main objective was to make sure no one else was hurt.

Later, police spokesman Jack Keller said the troopers and local police would watch the building all night under the assumption that Myers was still alive.

Police said Myers' rampage

started with a fire in his apartment in the nearby village of Mohawk at about 9:30 a.m. Wednesday. D'Amico said Myers then drove to John's Barber Shop around the corner and used a shotgun to kill two customers, whom he identified as Harry Montgomery, 68, and Michael Ransear, 57, a retired corrections officer. The shop's owner, John Seymour, and another customer, Dan Haslauer, were listed in critical condition at a Utica hospital.

D'Amico said the gunman then drove to Gaffy's Fast Lube

in nearby Herkimer and used the shotgun to kill Thomas Stefk, an employee, and Michael Renshaw, a customer who was a

23-year veteran of the state Department of Corrections.

John Seymour told his sister, Mary Hornett, the barbershop

attack came out of nowhere.

"He just said that the guys were in the barbershop and this guy comes in and he says, 'Hi John, do you remember me?' and my brother said, 'Yes, Kurt, how are you?' and then he just started shooting," Hornett said.

Hornett said her brother, who was hospitalized in critical condition, was doing well after being shot in the left hand and right hip.

"My brother couldn't think of any reason why he would do such a thing," she said of Myers, a former customer who hadn't been in the shop for a couple of years.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, in a press conference in Herkimer, called it "truly an inexplicable situation."

"There's no apparent motive to the best of our knowledge at this time to provoke these attacks," he said.

D'Amico said police had not had any communication with Myers, whose only known police record was a 1973 drunken-driving arrest.

Police positioned in front of a block of small businesses topped with apartments in the village of Herkimer were still looking for Myers on Wednesday evening.



AP

A man watches from the window of a barber shop as officials search down the street for a suspect in two shootings that killed four and injured at least two on, Wednesday, March 13, 2013 in Herkimer, N.Y.

Fla. politician resigns, 57 charged in scandal

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Florida's lieutenant governor resigned and nearly 60 other people were charged in a scandal involving a purported veterans charity that authorities said Wednesday was a front for a \$300 million gambling operation.

The organization, Allied Veterans of the World, runs nearly 50 Internet parlors with computerized slot machine-style

On edge at times, Newtown school tries to cope

NEWTOWN, Conn. (AP)—They relocated the entire student body to a new school unstained by blood. They brought in counselors to soothe shattered nerves, and parents to comfort the distraught.

But authorities know they cannot erase the lingering effects of the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School—students and faculty members still on edge, still traumatized by the sounds of gunshots and by the horrors they survived.

In the new school building in the neighboring town of Monroe, police remain a presence. Signs ask people to close doors softly and not to drag objects across the floor.

"There are reactions to noises, doors slamming, things being dropped have a strong startled response," said Newtown School Superintendent Janet Robinson. "We're really just trying to have the whole school be as calm as possible."

A group of Sandy Hook Elementary School third-graders attending a Brownie meeting on a recent day heard a loud noise and looked around nervously. Though the troop leader assured them it was probably just someone pushing a cart, one girl began to cry.

"You can tell that every little sound that is made in that school, the kids are still extremely scared," said Brenda Lebinski, parent of a third-grader who witnessed the episode.

games, which have come under scrutiny in Florida but are in a gray legal area.

Even so, investigators said the charity was a fraud and executives gave precious little to veterans while lavishing millions on themselves, spending it on boats, beachfront condos and Maseratis, Ferraris and Porsches.

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi called the alleged scam "callous" and "despicable" and said it "insults every American who ever wore a military uniform."

Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll was not among those charged but resigned a day after she was questioned by investigators.

The public relations firm she co-owned, 3 N&JC, did work for St. Augustine-based Allied Veterans. A Navy veteran who served in the Gulf War, Carroll also appeared in a TV ad in

2011 promoting the organization's work on behalf of veterans and their families.



Authorities refused to discuss any ties between the 53-year-old Republican and the investigation. Her aides had no comment.

Carroll said in a statement Wednesday that neither she nor the public relations firm was targeted in the probe, and she stepped down so that her ties to the organization would not be a distraction for Republican Gov. Rick Scott's administration.

The investigation involved 57 arrest warrants and 54 search warrants issued in Florida and five other states: South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Nevada and Pennsylvania. As of midafternoon, 49 people had been arrested. Allied Veterans' 49 parlors in Florida were raided and shut down.



Carroll


Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director


INVITATION FOR BIDS
 CUC-IFB-13-016
PROCUREMENT & INSTALLATION OF LED STREET LIGHTS
 (Phase No. 3)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the procurement and installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LED) Street Lights on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 10:00 AM (ChST) on **March 14, 2013** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-016, Procurement and Installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LED) Street Lights" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on April 9, 2013** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualifications should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page—<http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **March 19, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
 Acting Executive Director

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE THE CNMI JOINT MILITARY TRAINING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The U.S. military announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) to evaluate potential impacts associated with preliminary alternatives for meeting unfilled U.S. military training requirements in the CNMI. The U.S. military proposes to improve existing and develop new live-fire and maneuver ranges and training areas on Tinian and Pagan. Existing military training areas and support facilities in the Western Pacific, particularly those in the CNMI are insufficient to support U.S. military training requirements. U.S. military training capabilities and capacity improvements are needed in the CNMI to ensure that the U.S. military can meet its statutory and international agreement responsibilities to maintain, equip, and train combat-ready forces in the Western Pacific.

The publication of the Notice of Intent initiates the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and public scoping period for the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS. Scoping assists the U.S. military in assessing the proposed action by soliciting community comment as to what issues should be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. Government agencies, private-sector organizations, and the general public are encouraged to participate in the NEPA process and scoping meetings for the EIS/OEIS. The U.S. military will host public open house scoping meetings on Saipan and Tinian.

The public is invited to attend the following open house scoping meetings:

- **Wednesday, April 10, 2013, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Dandan Elementary School Cafeteria, Dandan Road, Dandan, Saipan**
- **Thursday, April 11, 2013, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Tinian Gym, San Jose, Tinian**
- **Friday, April 12, 2013, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Carolinian Utt, Garapan, Saipan**

Informational posters will be displayed and subject matter experts will be available during the open house meetings to discuss the proposed action, answer questions, and accept comments. A Chamorro and Carolinian interpreter will be available at the scoping meetings.

Also, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the U.S. military is initiating Section 106 Consultation to determine the potential effects of the proposed action on historic properties and encourages governmental agencies, private-sector organizations, and the general public to participate in the Section 106 process. The Section 106 meetings will be held in a separate area during the scoping meetings where subject matter experts will explain the Section 106 process and solicit public input on the identification of potential historic properties.

Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings. Interested agencies, individuals, and groups may also mail their comments postmarked by April 29, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST) to:

Mail comments to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific
 Attn: EV21, CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS Project Manager
 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
 JBPHH, HI 96860-3134

Comments may also be submitted via the website: www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com.

World

Argentine Jorge Bergoglio elected Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY (AP)—From “the end of the earth,” the Catholic Church found a surprising new leader Wednesday, a pioneer pope from Argentina who took the name Francis, a pastor rather than a manager to resurrect a church and faith in crisis. He is the first pontiff from the New World and the first non-European since the Middle Ages.

Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the archbishop of Buenos Aires who has spent nearly his entire career in Argentina, was a fast and fitting choice for the most unpredictable papal succession—start to finish—in at least six centuries.

He is the first pope from the Americas, the first Jesuit and the first named Francis, after St. Francis of Assisi, the humble friar who dedicated his life to helping the poor. The last non-European pope was Syria's Gregory III from 731-41.

“You know that the work of the conclave is to give a bishop to Rome,” the new pontiff said as he waved shyly to the tens of thousands who braved a cold rain in St. Peter's Square. “It seems as if my brother cardinals went to find him from the end of the earth, but here we are. Thank you for the welcome.”

The 76-year-old Bergoglio, said to have finished second when Pope Benedict XVI was elected in 2005, was chosen on just the fifth ballot to replace the first pontiff to resign in 600 years. In the past century, only Benedict, John Paul I in 1978 and Pius XII in 1939 were faster.

Francis' election elated Latin Americans, who number 40 percent of the world's Catholics but have long been underrepre-



Pope Francis waves to the crowd from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

sented in the church leadership. On Wednesday, drivers honked their horns in the streets of Buenos Aires and television announcers screamed with elation at the news.

“It's a huge gift for all of Latin America. We waited 20 centuries. It was worth the wait,” said Jose Antonio Cruz, a Franciscan friar at the St. Francis of Assisi church in the colonial Old San Juan district in Puerto Rico. “Everyone from Canada down to Patagonia is going to feel blessed.”

The new pontiff brings a common touch. The son of middle-class Italian immigrants, he

denied himself the luxuries that previous cardinals in Buenos Aires enjoyed. He lived in a simple apartment, often rode the bus to work, cooked his own meals and regularly visited slums that ring Argentina's capital.

He considers social outreach, rather than doctrinal battles, to be the essential business of the church.

“As a champion of the poor and the most vulnerable among us, he carries forth the message of love and compassion that has inspired the world for more than 2,000 years—that in each other, we see the face of God,”

President Barack Obama said in a statement.

As the 266th pope, Francis inherits a Catholic church in turmoil, beset by the clerical sex abuse scandal, internal divisions and dwindling numbers in parts of the world where Christianity had been strong for centuries.

While Latin America still boasts the largest bloc of Catholics on a single continent, it has faced competition from aggressive evangelical churches that have chipped away at strongholds like Brazil, where the number of Catholics has dropped from 74 percent of the population in 2000 to 65 percent today.

Francis is sure to bring the church closer to the poverty-racked region, while also introducing the world to a very different type of pope, whose first words were a simple, “Brothers and sisters, good evening.”

He asked for prayers for himself, and for Benedict, whose stunning resignation paved the way for his election.

“I want you to bless me,” Francis said in his first appearance from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, asking the faithful to bow their heads in silent prayer.

Francis spoke by phone with Benedict, who has been living at the papal retreat in Castel Gandolfo, and told cardinals he plans to visit the retired pontiff on Thursday, according to U.S. Cardinal Timothy Dolan. The visit is significant because Benedict's resignation has raised concerns about potential power conflicts emerging from the peculiar situation of having a reigning pope and a retired one.

Latin America sees change under region's 1st pope

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The famous words uttered to announce that a leader of the Catholic Church has been chosen now have special resonance for Latin America, which had felt neglected by the Vatican and has finally produced the New World's first pope.

“‘Habemus Papam.’ ‘We have a pope,’” said Tom Quigley, former policy adviser on Latin American and Caribbean affairs at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. “This will instill a sense of pride and happiness and will have a very positive effect.”

The selection of former Argentine Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio as pope is already energizing the world's most Catholic continent, which has been rapidly losing its faithful.

Many hope Pope Francis will bring a familiar cultural warmth, while pushing the church to address a divisive gap between rich and poor in the region. He is also seen as someone who could bridge Latin America's left-right political split as a conservative devoted to fighting poverty and not afraid to speak out against the hierarchy.

But first, the papacy of Francis is being seen as an overdue acknowledgement of the home of 40 percent of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics that felt distant from former Pope Benedict XVI.

“It's a recognition of the millions of Spanish-speaking faithful who belong to the church,” said Salvadoran President Mario Funes.

Almost everything about Pope Francis suggests a shift from Benedict, his reserved academic predecessor, who put his focus on saving Europe and was criticized for waiting seven years before visiting Spanish-speaking Latin America on a trip last year to Mexico and Cuba.

The new pope picked a name that has never been used, an apparent reference to a humble friar who dedicated his life to helping the poor. He comes from an order, the Jesuits, that had never produced a pope. He considers social outreach, rather than doctrinal battles, to be the essential business of the church.

“For me it's a sign from God, who is inviting us to commit ourselves to a continental mission,” said Bishop Eugenio Lira, secretary-general of the Mexican Conference of Bishops. “He will imprint his Latin American personality ... He knows the joys, the



Early life

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Dec. 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, to an Italian immigrant family

Education Master's degree in chemistry, University of Buenos Aires; advanced degree in philosophy

Highlights of religious life

1969 Ordained a priest; member of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)

1973-1979 Served as a religious superior (leader) within the Society

1980-1986 Rector of the Philosophical and Theological Faculty of San Miguel, the seminary where he studied

1992-1997 Auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires

1998-2001 Archbishop of Buenos Aires

2001-2013 Cardinal-Archbishop of Buenos Aires; held several administrative positions in the Roman Curia; known for his simple lifestyle, commitment to social justice and doctrinal conservatism

March 13, 2013 Elected pope, the first from the Americas

© 2013 MCT Source: The Vatican, MCT Photo Service

pains, the problems and the opportunities of the people of Latin America and the Caribbean and that will create a very close relationship.”

Latin America, with roughly 600 million people, is home to some of the world's poorest and most violent countries, with organized crime and drug trafficking causing a spike in killings through the region in recent years. It remains one of the most unequal regions in the world, according to the World Bank, though the gap has been closing in recent years and more people have moved into the middle class.

Francis was unafraid to challenge the Argentine government for being too liberal or to label fellow church members as hypocrites for forgetting that Jesus Christ bathed lepers and ate with prostitutes.

“His discourse is very close to the social doctrine of the church,” said Elio Masferrer, a religion expert at Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History. “That includes the criticism that in this time there are sectors of the clergy who behave like aristocrats, like princes of the church.”

China names Xi Jinping president, capping his rise

BEIJING (AP)—China's new leader Xi Jinping capped his rise Thursday by adding the largely ceremonial title of president, though he will need cautious maneuvering to consolidate his power and build support from a public that is increasingly clamoring for change.

The elevation of Xi to the presidency by the rubberstamp national legislature gave him the last of the three titles held by his predecessor, Hu Jintao. The move was expected after Xi was named head of the Communist Party and chairman of its military, positions of true power, last November in a once-a-decade handover to a new group of leaders that has been years in the making.

“I'm very happy. With President Xi leading us, China will be more prosperous and more powerful,” said Zhang Rihong, chairwoman of a real estate company from northeastern Heilongjiang province who joined nearly 3,000 fellow del-

egates to the National People's Congress in Beijing's cavernous, red-carpeted Great Hall of the People.

“This is welcomed by all,” she said.

Though Xi is now formally in charge, big challenges remain for him within the party's top ranks—in which powerful people are often divided by patronage, ideology or financial interests.

This will be doubly so if he follows through on his pledge to tackle the endemic graft he has pinpointed as detrimental to the party's survival, said Willy Lam, a China politics watcher at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Graft is deeply ingrained in the party's patronage-based culture and those at the top—many of whose families have benefited from their political connections—are believed to be most resistant to anti-corruption

measures that diminish their prerogatives.

“He has to walk a fine line,” Lam said. “If he were really serious about going after senior cadres, he might establish his authority within the rank and file. However, that would also jeopardize his relationship with the power blocs and with the holders of vested interests.”

Xi's accession marks only the second orderly transfer of power in more than six decades of Communist Party rule. He was the only candidate for president in Thursday's ballot in the country's figure-

head parliament. The delegates voted 2,952-to-1 for Xi in balloting that amounts to a political ritual echoing the decisions of the party leadership. Three delegates abstained.

After the result was announced, Xi bowed to delegates and turned to Hu, seated on his



Xi

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Shark wrestler's heroics land him in hot water

LONDON (AP)—A 62-year-old British man who became an Internet sensation after wrestling with a shark on an Australian beach says he was fired after his employer discovered he'd been abroad while on sick leave. Paul Marshallsea was filmed yanking a six-foot- (1.8-meter-) long shark away from waders at Caloundra beach near Brisbane in January. But his intervention also caught the eye of his employer, the Pant and Dowlais Boys & Girls Club, a Welsh charity. Marshallsea had been on leave since April after saying he was suffering from work-related stress. Marshallsea told local news website WalesOnline he was unhappy at his treatment, adding that his doctor had advised him to take a vacation.

Police: Couple brings kids along for UT bank heist

TOOELE, Utah (AP)—Police in Utah say they've arrested a husband and wife bank robbery team that took their two children along for the illegal excursion. An arrest report from Tooele police says the man and woman, both 27, were caught Monday soon after a Wells Fargo branch was robbed. A 5-year-old and a 2-year-old were in the back seat. According to *The Salt Lake Tribune*, the couple told police they robbed the bank because they faced eviction and growing medical bills. Employees told police the woman entered the bank and showed the teller a note demanding money. The woman reportedly ran from the bank to the car, which was driven by the man. Police say they searched the vehicle and found the demand note, along with hundreds of dollars in cash.

Vets save NYC dog who swallowed 111 pennies

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York City dog has undergone emergency surgery to remove more than 100 pennies from his stomach. The *New York Daily News* reports that a Jack Russell terrier named Jack swallowed 111 pennies last week and quickly became ill. The 13-year-old pooch's owner rushed him to a Manhattan veterinarian for emergency surgery. That's when dog doctors put Jack under anesthesia and methodically removed all 111 coins. The zinc from the coins could be lethal. The dog's owner told the newspaper his best friend is back to his normal self, driving him crazy.

Mo. golfer survives fall into Ill. course sinkhole

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Mark Mihal was having a good opening day on the links when he noticed an unusual depression on the 14th fairway at Annbriar Golf Club in southern Illinois. Remarking to his friends how awkward it would be to have to hit out of it, he went over for a closer look.

One step onto the pocked section and the 43-year-old mortgage broker plunged into a sinkhole. He landed 18 feet

down with a painful thud, and his friends managed to hoist him to safety with a rope after about 20 minutes. But Friday's experience gave Mihal quite a fright, particularly after the recent death of a Florida man whose body hasn't been found since a sinkhole swallowed him and his bedroom.

"I feel lucky just to come out of it with a shoulder injury, falling that far and not knowing what I was going to hit," Mi-

hal, from the St. Louis suburb of Creve Coeur, told The Associated Press before heading off to learn whether he'll need surgery. "It was absolutely crazy."

Annbriar general manager Russ Nobbe described the sinkhole as "an extremely unfortunate event, an event we feel is an act of nature."

"We don't feel there is any way we could have foreseen this happening," he told a Tuesday news conference.

Mihal said it was a real downer on what had been a fine outing.

With winter finally nearing an end, "it was the first day to get to play in a long time," he said. "So I wasn't expecting too much."

Golfing with buddies, Mihal was waiting to hit his third shot, some 100 yards from the pin on the par 5, when he noticed a bathtub-looking indentation about knee deep just behind him on the fairway. At just one over par for the round, the golfer with a 6 handicap was on a roll.

Then the ground gave way beneath him.

"It didn't look unstable,"

Mihal said. "And then I was gone. I was just freefalling. It felt like forever, but it was just a second or two, and I didn't

know what I was going to hit. And all I saw was darkness."

His golfing buddies didn't see him vanish into the earth but noticed he wasn't visible, figuring he had tripped and fallen out of

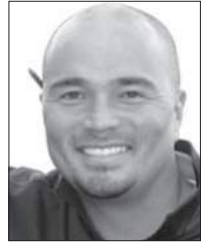
sight down a hill. But one of them heard Mihal's moans and went to investigate.

"He just thought it was some crazy magic trick or something," Mihal said.

Hardly.

Getting panicky and knowing his shoulder "was busted," Mihal assessed his dilemma in pitch darkness as he rested on a mound of mud, wondering if the ground would give way more and send him deeper into the pit that was 10-feet wide at the opening, then broadened out into the shape of a bell below the surface.

"I was looking around, clinging to the mud pile, trying to see if there was a way out," he said. "At that point, I started yelling, 'I need a ladder and a rope, and you guys need to get me out of here.'"



Mihal



AP

In this cell phone image taken March 8, 2013 and provided by golf-manna.com, Hank Martinez, top, Ed Magaletta, right, and Russ Nobbe, look into an 18-foot-deep and 10-foot-wide sinkhole that golfer Mark Mihal fell into while playing golf at the Annbriar Golf Course in Waterloo, Ill.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER (ATCT)

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-002-13

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance of the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) at the Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work entails providing maintenance services for a period of two (2) years for the Tower, the Base Building and its surroundings. The proposal package which includes the Scope of Work and Evaluation Factors will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning Thursday, March 14, 2013. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for this project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance of the Air Traffic Control Tower at the Saipan International Airport". One original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, Monday, APRIL 15, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

All proposals will be evaluated on the following factors: (1) price, (2) relevant experience, (3) sufficiency of workers, (4) most recent financial statement and (5) insurance requirements.

Contractor will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA's requirements. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the Scope of Work at the Office of the Executive Director.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held at the CPA Conference Room, 2nd Floor of the Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at 10:00 a.m. Monday, March 25, 2013 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project which will be followed by a walk-through of the Air Traffic Control Tower facility. Questions must be in writing and faxed to the Executive Director at (670) 234-5962 or via email at cpa.admin@pticom.com at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offer or due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for service.

Offerors will be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned submission date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS A&E DESIGN of the THE PUERTO RICO DUMP CLOSURE RFQ13-GOV-080

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provide Architectural & Engineering Design of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project located on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The complete Scope of Work for the A&E services required will be available on Thursday, February 21, 2013, at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. Questions regarding the RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4 p.m. Friday, March 08, 2013 ChST.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and a Schedule of Completion, addressing the Scope of Work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished by the consultants, with the names of the responsible persons identified. Proposers shall also submit a statement of qualifications with resumes and experience for the responsible persons. The total proposal length shall not exceed fifty (50) pages in length, inclusive of resumes and previous project descriptions. Note that a firm which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, the consultant may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Qualifications and Background of the Company(s) and proposed assigned personnel | - 25% |
| 2. Past experience of the consultant on design of similar projects | - 25% |
| 3. Project Approach and Schedule for Completion | - 25% |
| 4. Demonstrated capability of ability to perform the work required | - 25% |

Performance time for completion of the A&E redesign is One Hundred Sixty (160) calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed and shall be the greater of (i) two hundred dollars (US\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time, the contract time and contract price being determined at the time of the assessment of liquidated damages for each and every day beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three ranked (3) firms. After a selection is made negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "RFQ13-GOV-080, A&E Design of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, March 18, 2013. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, March 18, 2013, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, March 18, 2013, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than March 27, 2013 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/Eloy S. Inos, Lieutenant Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

Science & Technology

Report: More youth use smartphones as route to Web

CHICAGO (AP)—Keep computers in a common area so you can monitor what your kids are doing. It's a longstanding directive for online safety—but one that's quickly becoming moot as more young people have mobile devices, often with Internet access.

A new report from the Pew Internet & American Life Project finds that 78 percent of young people, ages 12 to 17, now have cellphones. Nearly half of those are smartphones, a share that's increasing steadily—and that's having a big effect on how, and where, many young people are accessing the Web.

The survey, released Wednesday, finds that one in four young people say they are “cell-mostly” Internet users, a percentage that increases to about half when the phone is a smartphone.

In comparison, just 15 percent of adults said they access the Internet mostly by cellphone.

“It's just part of life now,” says Donald Conkey, a high school sophomore in Wilmette, Ill., just north of Chicago, who is among the many teens who have smartphones. “Everyone's about the same now when it comes to their phones—they're on them a lot.”

He and other teens say that if you add up all the time they spend using apps and searching for info, texting and downloading music and videos, they're on



Peter Conkey, 6, left, laughs as he tries to keep his brother Harry Conkey, 17, center, from taking his iPod Touch as their brother Harry Conkey, 15, watches on Monday, March 11, 2013, in Wilmette, Ill.

their phones for at least a couple hours each day—and that time is only increasing, they say.

“The occasional day where my phone isn't charged or I leave it behind, it feels almost as though I'm naked in public,” says Michael Weller, a senior at New Trier High School, where Conkey also attends. “I really need to have that connection and that attachment to my

phone all the time.”

According to the survey, older teen girls, ages 14 to 17, were among the most likely to say their phones were the primary way they access the Web. And while young people in low-income households were still somewhat less likely to use the Internet, those who had phones were just as likely—and in some cases, more likely—to

use their cellphones as the main way they access the Web.

It means that, as this young generation of “mobile surfers” grows and comes of age, the way corporations do business and marketers advertise will only continue to evolve, as will the way mobile devices are monitored.

Already, many smartphones have restriction menus that al-

low parents to block certain phone functions, or mature content. Cellphone providers have services that allow parents to see a log of their children's texts. And there are a growing number of smartphone applications that at least claim to give parents some level of control on a phone's Web browser, though many tech experts agree that these applications can be hit-or-miss.

Despite the ability to monitor some phone activity, some tech and communication experts question whether surveillance, alone, is the best response to the trend.

Some parents take a hard line on limits. Others, not so much,

says Mary Madden, a senior researcher at Pew who co-authored the report.

“It seems like there are two extremes. The parents who are really locking down and monitoring everything—or the ones who are throwing up their hands and saying, ‘I'm so overwhelmed,’” Madden says.

She says past research also has found that many parents hesitate to confiscate phones as punishment because they want their kids to stay in contact with them.

“Adults are still trying to work out the appropriate rules for themselves, let alone their children,” Madden says. “It's a difficult time to be a parent.”

She can't send e-mail but still receives it

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: In early February, our Comcast service went out, affecting our TV, phone and computer connections for about five minutes. Since then I can't send emails from Windows Live Mail. However, I can still receive e-mails, and have no other Internet connectivity problems. What do you suggest?—Barb Lohmann, Plymouth, Minn.

ANSWER: It sounds as if your computer isn't connected to Comcast's outgoing email server. This could have been caused by the service outage, some unrelated PC configuration issue or by changes Comcast has made in the way it handles email.

If the service outage disrupted your connection to Comcast's outgoing email server (called the SMTP, or Simple Mail Transfer Protocol server), you may have to call Comcast's help desk to get it reconnected.

But try a couple of other things first. Sometimes PC configuration issues, such as your computer having the wrong date and time settings, can interrupt Windows Live Mail. For a list of common configuration problems, see Microsoft's forums at <http://tinyurl.com/a5anlyl>.

Another possible source of disruption is security changes Comcast recently made that affect sending email. To comply with these changes, you'll need to change some PC settings to shift your outgoing email from the PC's “port 25” to its “port 465.” (These “ports” are software, not physical objects.) See “To configure your

Windows Live Mail client” on Comcast's website, at <http://tinyurl.com/ano2a4z>.

Q: When my laptop goes to sleep, it loses its connection to my home Wi-Fi network. If I unplug the Wi-Fi router's electrical cord, then plug it back in, the laptop reconnects again. Any idea how to fix this?—Ann Bodenstener, Edina, Minn.

A: You can change the settings on your PC so it doesn't go to sleep. Go to “Start,” click “Control Panel” and select “Power Options.” On the following menu, see whether the “balanced” or “power saver” options are checked; next to the one that's checked, click “change plan settings.” Next to “put the computer to sleep” is a drop-down menu; from the list select “Never,” then click “save changes.”

Q: When I typed in the Web address for the Kindle e-reader software that you wrote about, it didn't work. Why?—Gene Amendola, Riverbank, Calif.

A: The TinyURL addresses I use in the column only work if they're typed on the Web address line of your browser. If you instead type them into a search engine, they won't work.

Why? The TinyURLs aren't real Web page addresses, so search engines can't find them. Then how do they work? They take you to the TinyURL.com website, where the TinyURL address you typed is translated into the real Web page address.

Why do it this way? Real Web addresses are often too long to print.

Mac computers are not immune to malware

By JOHN BOUDREAU
SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

The biggest vulnerability to Macintosh computers is the belief among their devoted users that Apple's superior operating system makes them immune to malware, experts say.

“Some Mac users have this perception that the Mac is free from hacks and that is completely wrong,” said Zheng Bu, senior director of research for FireEye, which develops anti-malware products.

Mac users, said Kevin Haley, Symantec director of product management for security response, “have let their guard down.”

While the vast majority of malware is aimed at Windows operating systems, the growing market share of MacBooks and iMacs is making Apple computers a bigger target. In recent years, Macintosh computers have garnered about 20 percent of the U.S. consumer market, said Stephen Baker, the hardware analyst at the NPD Group. “They are gaining,” he said.

Macs going mainstream may be great for Apple's bottom line, but it also makes the Macintosh operating system a bigger target for hackers, experts say.

“We are seeing more and

more Macs getting infected,” Haley said.

The first computer viruses actually were aimed at Apple computers, said Andrew Conway, a researcher at Cloudmark, which works on Internet security problems. “Back in the day, the first virus appeared on Macs,” which was more sophisticated than Microsoft Disk Operating System, or MS-DOS, he said. “You could write a virus on it, and you couldn't do that on DOS.”

Many Mac users have long assumed Apple's operating system, which is tightly knitted with the hardware the company also designs, has stronger security than Windows. Conway, though, said there is no way to prove that is true.

While Apple is good about fixing its vulnerabilities, “the Mac hasn't come under the kind

of attack we've seen with the Windows PC,” he said.

The Macintosh operating system is “not a super-system made by super-people,” Conway added.

What is certain is the Macintosh operating system is once again becoming attractive to hackers.

Last year, the Flashback Trojan malware infected an estimated 600,000 Macs by appearing to be a browser plug-in but actually stole personal information. In February, Apple said Macs operated by Apple employees were infected with Java-related malware when they visited a software development website. The Cupertino, Calif., company did not disclose how many of its employees' computers were infected or when.

One of the biggest threats to

links.

■ Be careful about clicking on links on Facebook or Twitter from someone who appears to be a friend “offering” photos of you.

■ Consider using anti-virus protection software for Macintosh computers.

Source: Kevin Haley, Symantec director of product management for security response.

5 WAYS TO MAKE MACS SAFER

■ Accept software updates from Apple and third-party vendors as soon as they become available. These often include security patches.

■ Do not click on unexpected attachments, even from email that appear to be from people you know.

■ Do not click on suspicious

Life & Style

Priority is ensuring 'family is whole'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle Obama is pushing back against the notion that she and President Barack Obama don't socialize enough in Washington.

The first lady says in an interview in the April issue of Vogue magazine that she and the president were straightforward when they said—before moving from Chicago to Washington in 2009—that their family, including two young daughters, would be their priority.

She said “the stresses and the pressures” of the White House are so real that they prefer to spend free time with their daughters, now 14 and 11.

“Our job is, first and foremost, to make sure our family is whole. You know, we have small kids; they're growing every day. But I think we were both pretty straightforward when we said, 'Our No. 1 priority is making sure that our family is whole,’” Mrs. Obama said in the interview, a copy of which was provided to The Associated Press before the magazine hits newsstands on March 26.

She noted that most of the couple's friends are parents, too, and that when she and the president go on vacation, usually with long-time friends or relatives, they are surrounded by children.

“The stresses and the pressures of this job are so real that when you get a minute, you want to give that extra energy to your 14- and 11-year-old,” the first lady said.

The interview, conducted in



AP
This cover image released by Vogue shows first lady Michelle Obama on the cover of the April 2013 issue of Vogue. The issue is available on newsstands on March 26.

January shortly after Obama began his second term, was released in the midst of his attempts to do more of what critics say he hasn't done enough of: reaching out to lawmakers, particularly Republicans, he needs to get his agenda through Congress. The list of action items includes legislation to limit ac-

cess to firearms, overhaul the immigration system and make progress toward deficit reduction, among other issues.

Obama recently had dinner with a group of Republican senators at a hotel near the White House. He followed up by having lunch at the White House with the House Budget

Committee chairman, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and the panel's top Democrat, Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland.

The president also has been making multiple trips to Capitol Hill this week to meet with the individual party caucuses in both chambers.

He joked in the Vogue interview that he and the first lady might start hitting the town, now that their daughters are older and have less time for them.

“As I joked at a press conference, now that they want less time with us, who knows? Maybe you'll see us out in the clubs,” Obama said.

Mrs. Obama added that “90 percent” of what she and the president talk about has to do with the girls: what they're up to, who has practice, which one of their friends is having a birthday party and did they get that person a gift—conversation she described as “endless” and “pretty exhausting.”

She suggested that neither one of them wants to miss any of it. Obama grew up without his father and has talked publicly about his desire to be there for his kids.

“He's doing it while still dealing with Syria and health care. He's as up on every friend, every party, every relationship,” the first lady said. “And if you're out to dinner every night, you miss those moments where you can check-in and just figure them out when they're ready to share with you.”

Pursuit of hackers who took credit reports expands

WASHINGTON (AP)—The pursuit of hackers who audaciously stole and published credit reports for Michelle Obama, the attorney general, FBI director and other U.S. politicians and celebrities crisscrossed continents and included a San Francisco-based Internet company, Cloudflare, The Associated Press has learned.

The sensational crime caught the attention of Congress and

President Barack Obama, who said “we should not be surprised.”

Obama said he could not confirm that the first lady's credit report was published earlier this week on a Russian website, along with what appeared to be the credit reports of nearly two dozen others, including Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, real estate mogul Donald Trump and celebrities Brit-

ney Spears, Jay Z, Beyonce and Tiger Woods.

If accurate as widely suspected, the leaked records put each victim at significant risk of identity theft. Included in the reports are Social Security numbers, dates of birth and a list of previous home addresses. The records also include such personal information as the first lady's monthly payments on a student loan 10 years ago and

that she once held a Banana Republic credit card.

The president said determined hackers are a persistent threat.

“We should not be surprised that if you've got hackers who want to dig in and devote a lot of resources, that they can access people's private information,” Obama told ABC News in an interview aired Wednesday. “It is a big problem.”

Eva Longoria is busy post-'Desperate Housewives'

NEW YORK (AP)—Eva Longoria hasn't slowed down since “Desperate Housewives” signed off after eight seasons last year. In fact, the actress says the word “lazy” isn't in her vocabulary.

“There are days when I relax but it won't be a full day. It usually means I'm gonna clean out my closet. That's relaxing for me. Or I'm gonna cook a full meal for my family and friends,” Longoria, who will be 38 on Friday, said in a recent interview.

Longoria said she has no problem juggling various projects.

“I always say there's more time in the day than you think.

You waste a lot of time that you don't realize,” she said. “When I was on ‘Desperate Housewives,’ I learned two languages. I went back to school for my master's degree, I was married (to San Antonio Spurs point guard Tony Parker) and flying back and forth (between Los Angeles and Texas). You have time.”

Her passions also include philanthropy and politics. She's committed to encouraging Latin women to further their education and start entrepreneurial programs. She also founded Eva's Heroes, dedi-

cated to teens and young adults with special needs.

She just wrapped up filming on “Frontera,” alongside Ed Harris and Michael Pena, and has endorsement deals with L'Oreal, Frito-Lay and Sheba.

Longoria is also an executive producer on two upcoming TV shows.

On “Ready for Love,” a reality dating show that will air on NBC, three matchmakers help three men find love.

Longoria says she hand-picked each of the three eli-



Longoria

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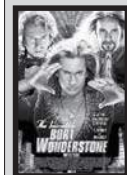
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The Incredible Burt Wonderstone

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon through Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Cast: Steve Carell, Olivia Wilde, Steve Buscemi
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A down on his luck Las Vegas magician (Steve Carell) joins back up with an old partner (Steve Buscemi) to take on a new school illusionist (Jim Carrey in this comedy from director Don Scardino. Olivia Wilde and James Gandolfini co-star.



Oz The Great and Powerful 3D

Friday		7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	7:00	
Mon through Thurs		7:00	

Cast: James Franco, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG



Oz The Great and Powerful 2D

Friday		4:00	
Saturday		4:00	
Sunday		4:00	
Mon through Thurs		4:00	

Cast: James Franco, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG



Jack The Giant Slayer 3D

Friday		7:20	
Saturday	1:20	7:20	
Sunday	1:20	7:20	
Mon through Thurs		7:20	

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, John Kassir, Ewan McGregor
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG 13



Jack The Giant Slayer 2D

Friday		4:20	9:50
Saturday		4:20	9:50
Sunday		4:20	
Mon through Thurs		4:20	

Cast: Nicholas Hoult, John Kassir, Ewan McGregor
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG 13



The Last Exorcism II

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:30
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon through Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Cast: Ashley Bell, Julia Garner, Spencer Treat Clark
Genre: Horror, Thriller • Rated PG 13



21 and Over

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Cast: Justin Chon, Miles Teller, Jonathan Keltz
Genre: Comedy • Rated R



Snitch

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon through Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Dwane Johnson, Benjamin Bratt, Barry Pepper
Genre: Action • Rated PG 13



Escape From Planet Earth 3D

Friday		4:30	9:45
Saturday		4:30	9:45
Sunday		4:30	
Mon through Thurs		4:30	

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jessica Alba
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy • Rated PG



Escape From Planet Earth 2D

Friday		7:30	
Saturday	1:30	7:30	
Sunday	1:30	7:30	
Mon through Thurs		7:30	

Cast: Brendan Fraser, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jessica Alba
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy • Rated PG

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'Veronica Mars' film's online fundraiser hits goal

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Veronica Mars" fans just bought themselves a big-screen version of the cult favorite TV series.

A crowd-sourcing campaign on the Kickstarter website to raise \$2 million for the project hit its goal in less than a day.

"Veronica Mars," which starred Kristen Bell as a young sleuth, ended its three-season run in 2007. With Bell's help, series creator Rob Thomas started the effort Wednesday to make a big-screen version.

More than 33,000 contributors had pledged \$2.1 million as of Wednesday evening, and the total was still growing.

In his online pitch, Thomas promised, "The more money we raise, the cooler movie we can make."

The movie is the fastest project yet to reach \$1 million on Kickstarter, hitting the mark in 4 hours, 24 minutes. It's also the most-funded film or video project to date, according to a spokesman for the site. Previous top movie fundraisers are the planned "The Goon" (\$442,000) and "Charlie Kaufman's Anomalisa"



In this July 17, 2006 file photo, Executive producer, Rob Thomas, left, answers questions about the upcoming season of "Veronica Mars" as actress Kristen Bell looks on during The CW's Television Critics Association press conference in Pasadena, Calif.

(\$406,000), both animated.

Thomas said "Veronica Mars" owner Warner Bros. has given the project its blessing, and Bell and other cast members are ready to begin production this summer for a 2014 release. A studio spokesman said a limited release, meaning it may not be on thousands of screens or in every city, is likely at this point.

The fundraising campaign,

which was confirmed by Thomas' representative at United Talent Agency, ends April 12.

"You have banded together like the sassy little honey badgers you are and made this possibility happen," Bell said in an online message, promising the "sleuthiest, snarkiest" movie possible.

Bell is back on TV in "House of Lies," the Showtime series starring Don Cheadle.

Man arrested for violating Trump restraining order

DORAL, Florida (AP)—A man is being held without bond in Florida after authorities say he violated a restraining order instructing him to stay away from Donald Trump's daughter.

John Eugene Enabnit was arrested Monday. He was being held at a Miami-Dade County jail on a charge of violating a restraining order issued by a New York court.

Ivanka Trump is an executive vice president for her father's Trump Organization and appeared on his reality television

show "The Apprentice."

Donald Trump owns the Trump Doral Resort & Spa. Doral Police Chief Richard Blom says Enabnit was escorted off the resort's grounds Saturday.

Enabnit was trying to get into a media area with someone else's credential, which was not valid on that particular day, Blom said. A security guard confiscated the credential and asked police to assist in escorting Enabnit off the grounds.

One of the officers later recognized Enabnit on a New York



Trump

Police Department flier that had been distributed to resort security but not to local police. The flier said Enabnit had been stalking Ivanka Trump and that he would be violating the restraining order because the resort is considered her place of business, Blom said.

Police tracked Enabnit to his hotel Monday.

"He said he had been trying to get in touch with Ivanka and see her and court her," Blom said. "He admits he was on the grounds, and he admits he was looking for her."

Messages left for a Trump Organization spokeswoman were not immediately returned.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Spielberg mingles with Bollywood stars in India

NEW DELHI (AP)—Movie director Steven Spielberg says he chooses his work based on emotion, not business. The multiple Oscar-winning American director told Indian actor Amitabh Bachchan in a television interview aired Tuesday that he chooses to work only on films that call out to him. Spielberg is in the western city of Mumbai—the home of Bollywood—to celebrate the success of "Lincoln," which was co-produced by the Indian company Reliance Entertainment. He attended a glitzy Bollywood party Tuesday night, mingling with several top Indian actors, including Bachchan and his wife, actress Jaya Bachchan, and his daughter-in-law, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, a former Miss World who is also an actress.

Hilary Mantel up for 3rd major literary award

LONDON (AP)—Hilary Mantel is homing in on a clean sweep of Britain's three top literary prizes with a nomination for the Women's Prize for fiction. The novelist has already won the Booker and Costa prizes for her Tudor novel "Bring Up the Bodies." The 60-year-old writer is one of 20 candidates announced Wednesday for the Women's Prize, previously known as the Orange Prize. Nominees include previous winners Barbara Kingsolver and Zadie Smith, as well as Gillian Flynn, for her best-seller "Gone Girl." The award, in its 18th year, celebrates writing by women in English from around the world. The winner will receive 30,000 pounds (US\$45,000). Mantel's critically acclaimed historical novel is a sequel to "Wolf Hall," which also won the Booker. The winner will be announced in London on June 5.

Wintour charged with Conde Nast 'creative vision'

NEW YORK (AP)—Conde Nast is expanding the role of Vogue editor-in-chief Anna Wintour. She has been named the company's artistic director. The appointment was announced Wednesday by CEO Charles H. Townsend. Wintour's new duties include developing an overall "creative vision" for Conde Nast, which has a portfolio of 18 consumer magazines, including The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Glamour, Allure and GQ. Wintour, 63, will continue to run Vogue on a day-to-day basis, which she has done since 1988. She will also continue to serve as editorial director of Teen Vogue. Townsend said the promotion comes at a time to "leverage Anna's extraordinary vision and leadership." Wintour created the post-recession Fashion's Night Out. She sits on President Barack Obama's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and as an elective trustee of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Actor Ed Asner, 83, treated for exhaustion in US

GARY, Indiana (AP)—Ed Asner's publicist says the 83-year-old actor, who has been touring the country performing a one-man show for more than three years, has been hospitalized with exhaustion. Publicist Charles Sherman tells The Associated Press that Asner was taken off stage at the Marquette Pavilion in Gary, Ind., on Tuesday night. Sherman says Asner was taken by ambulance to a Chicago-area hospital where he is "resting comfortably" and is expected to be released later Wednesday. He says the actor, best known for his roles in TV's "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and its spinoff "Lou Grant," has been touring the nation portraying President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in "FDR" for 3 1/2 years.

She and several "Veronica Mars" cast members appear in a lighthearted video on Kickstarter in which they mull the prospect of reuniting.

The series averaged between 2.2 million and 2.5 million viewers in its two-year run on the now-defunct UPN and final season on the CW network. Those modest numbers are overshadowed by the intense fan devotion that has kept dreams of a movie alive.

Backers are eligible for various goodies, ranging from a PDF copy of the script to be sent on the day the film is released (for a \$10 pledge) to naming rights to a character (for \$8,000). An appearance in the movie, available to one \$10,000 contributor, was snapped up.

Claire Vaye Watkins wins \$20,000 short story prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Claire Vaye Watkins has won a \$20,000 Story Prize, the first woman to do so since 2007.

Vaye received the ninth annual Story Prize on Wednesday night for "Battleborn," a collection of 10 short stories set in the American West in the past and present.

The other finalists were Junot Diaz for "This is How You Lose Her" and Dan Chaon (shorn) for "Stay Awake." Each will receive \$5,000.

The last woman to win the Story Prize was Mary Gordon for "The Stories of Mary Gordon."

The award was established in 2004 to honor short story collections. Previous winners include Edwidge Danticat for "The Dew Breaker," Patrick O'Keefe for "The Hill Road" and Steven Millhauser for "We Others."

Boys being boys on campus flirt with sexual harassment

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I am a young woman on a predominantly male college campus. One morning, while walking to a class, I had the misfortune of walking a few feet ahead of a pair of boys who were having an incredibly offensive and loud conversation about their sexual interests. It was extremely derogatory toward women, and just plain disgusting.

In a situation like this, would it have been inappropriate for me to turn around and say something, or was it better to just hold my tongue and walk faster? I have discussed this with some of my sorority sisters and we are anxious to hear your answer because I'm not the only one who has encountered this.

OFFENDED IN GEORGIA

DEAR OFFENDED: You were right not to challenge them. Because this isn't an isolated incident, what you have described could be considered a form of sexual harassment. You and your sorority sisters should—as a group—bring this to the attention of the dean because you are a minority on that campus and the boys apparently haven't learned to function in an integrated environment.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Can a sexless marriage last? My wife and I have been married for 17 years and our sex life has been slowing for a long time. We have sex less than 10 times a year.

We get along great and are the best of friends. My wife is attractive and fun to be with, and I don't know what happened to us. What causes women to lose their sex drive? (Then they wonder why their husbands have affairs.)

My wife is in good health. There are no medical issues. We are more friends than lovers. I don't think she's involved with anyone else. I want a fun, active sex life, but I don't want to upset her or lose the closeness we have. It's just that I'm watching our sex life evaporate. Please help.

MIKE IN MISSOURI

DEAR MIKE: As women age, their hormone levels decrease, which can cause the sex drive to diminish. The reduced hormone levels can also make sex painful. If your wife would discuss these changes with her gynecologist or an endocrinologist, there may be a solution that would put some spark back in your marriage. However, that won't happen unless you are able to speak frankly with her about what's bothering you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been studying my whole life to become a classical singer. Many people have put great effort into helping me to succeed, especially my mother, who wanted to be an opera singer when she was my age. She is not a pushy stage mother, though. I chose to pursue music myself.

However, I have recently realized my heart is not fully in it and that I'd rather go to law school. I'm afraid to tell my mother and the other people about my decision because they have invested so much in me as a performer. I don't want to disappoint them, but my passion is now constitutional law. How do I share the news without breaking my mother's heart?

SINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE

DEAR SINGING: Your mother may be disappointed, but her heart will heal. If your passion is not in opera singing, the truth is you won't go very far in the field. (Even people who are passionate about it don't always succeed.) Wanting to be a lawyer is nothing to be ashamed of. Follow your dream.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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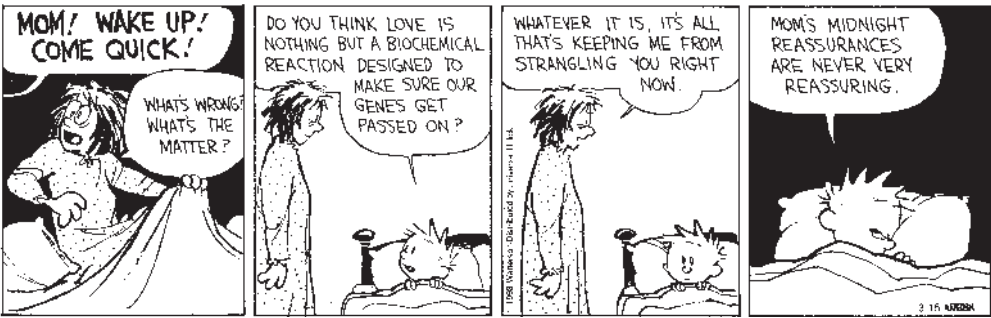
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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

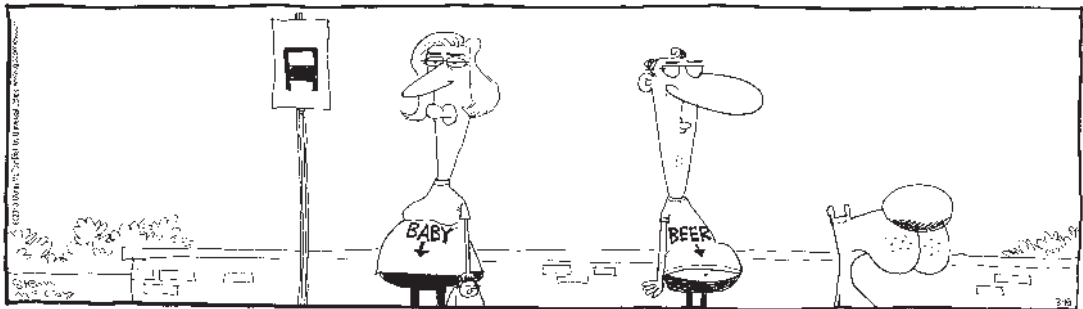
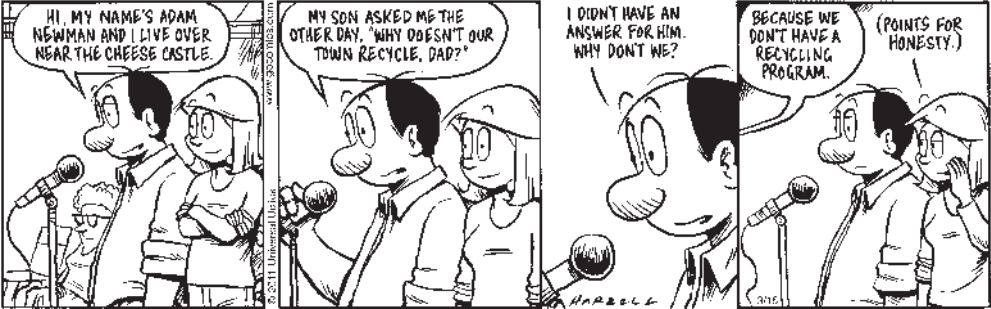
By Jim Davis



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By Bryan Basset The Duplex

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 \$ dispenser 4 "— Miser-ables" 7 Trounce 12 Common-est English word 13 Matter-horn 14 Worn unevenly 15 2012 movie bear 16 Savage 18 Mid-afternoon, in a way 19 Long-legged shorebird 20 Pull an all-nighter 22 Freudian concept 23 Use a keyboard 27 Moreover 29 Rodeo outcries 31 Strong adhesive 34 Meal for Oliver Twist 35 Moral principles 37 Larry's pal

38 Runs from the fuzz 39 Shooter ammo 41 Sharpen 45 Tureen accessory 47 Inseparable 48 Marian, in "The Music Man" 52 "Monty Python" opener 53 Wanted-poster datum 54 Hi-tech SFX 55 Prepared 56 Thick-soled shoes 57 Slight amount

DOWN 1 Storage story 2 "— Finest Hour" 3 TV, radio, etc. 4 Chemistry class-rooms 5 On cloud nine 6 Parsley serving 7 Vegan's no-no 8 Bobby of hockey 9 Luau side dish 10 "Born in the —" 11 Corral 17 Huff and puff 21 Long skirts 23 Pitched person 24 Second 25 "Ulaume" writer 26 Immigrant's study (Abbr.) 28 Big Apple letters 30 Past 31 Moray or conger 32 Sch. org. 33 Resistance measure 36 Practice pugilism 37 Sweet Spanish wine 40 Proclamation 42 Jack 43 Go in 44 Irritable 45 Glaswegian girl 46 Novelist Bagnold 48 Varnish ingredient 49 Under the weather 50 Life story, for short 51 Tatter

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kel-lan Lutz, 28; will.i.am, 38; Eva Longoria, 38; Bret Michaels, 50.

Happy Birthday: It's what you do behind the scenes that will guarantee you a spot in the lime-light at a later date. Focus on what you can contribute, and collaborate with serious-minded individuals who share your concerns. Honesty and integrity along with diplomacy and courage will help you come out on top. Romance will lead to greater fulfillment. Your numbers are 5, 8, 21, 23, 30, 39, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Refrain from being impulsive. Knowledge and exploring new possibilities can help you raise your income. A realistic view of your current situation will help you move forward. Update your skills and your resume to better reflect what you have to offer. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Let your emotions speak for you and you will make progress. An intuitive approach to dealing with people and their problems will make you the go-to person. Seal a deal, secure a partnership or join a cause that will expand your connections. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen carefully. Someone may not be honest with you or have good intentions. Ulterior motives are apparent and being ready to make a fast and effective move will be your saving grace. Stick to the rules and regulations to avoid a mishap. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a course or start a new project. Travel to places that inspire you to excel. A unique pastime will

lead to new acquaintances and new beginnings. Love is on the rise, and spending time with someone special will bring good results. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't shirk responsibility or deny mistakes. Owning up to what you do will enhance your position. Coming up with a solution and making the necessary alterations will prove you are up for whatever job you are given. Embrace a challenge. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take any opportunity to present what you have to offer. Networking functions will help you expand your interests as well as encourage the support you require to move forward. Love is highlighted. A partnership will flourish. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Concentrate on education and experiencing people, places and pastimes that are unique. Change is inevitable, and embracing it will encourage success. Don't listen to promises that sound too good to be true. Rely on your own research to guide you. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You are in control. Encourage change that will enable you to bring in more cash. Home improvements will raise your assets and your level of comfort. Find a reason to celebrate and you will enhance your love life. Self-improvement will pay off. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put more time and effort into your home, family and your personal future. Refrain from getting involved in discussions with friends or colleagues that will lead to added re-

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY
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sponsibilities or conflicts. Stick to the facts and avoid being liable. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Get back to basics. Follow through with old but reliable plans and ways of doing things. Change will create tension and can lead to an unsavory situation with a friend, relative or neighbor. Home improvements will pay off. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep a low profile. Say little, but listen to what's being said. Don't let an emotional issue drag you into an unsavory situation. Focus on home and expanding personal interests. A change must be implemented to better suit your financial needs. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Added income is in the stars. Look over your personal financial papers or an offer that interests you and you will find a way to advance financially. A partnership or a contract will bring you greater stability. Love is highlighted. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are innovative, outgoing and sensitive. You go all out to get your way. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 3/15

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	2	9	3	1	6	7	8	4
6	4	8	9	2	7	3	1	5
3	1	7	5	8	4	6	9	2
9	5	1	2	4	3	8	6	7
7	8	2	6	5	9	1	4	3
4	6	3	8	7	1	5	2	9
1	7	5	4	9	8	2	3	6
8	3	4	7	6	2	9	5	1
2	9	6	1	3	5	4	7	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/14

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

OFFICE SPACE RENOVATIONS Solution: 9 letters

M R P T R A D E S T I M R E P
A E E L E S T I M A T E L H S
T Q A S U P P L I E S P A C E
E U F S T M R O L O C S Y O R
R I R S U R B A S U E E O N U
I R D O T R O I C S G D U C T
A E F E O H E O N A E E T E X
L M U R A D G M M G C C R P I
S E N L E L N I E A O O O T F
T N D S A D S C L N S R O R I
O T K M N V H P U A T T L E P
R S P A I A K U E S R S F Z A
A S P N N R O D H C T A M O I
G X Y G O T I L E S H O W N N
E L E W E B U D G E T I M E T


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Budget, Carpet, Change, Color, Concept, Cost, Custom, Deals, Decor, Desk, Door, Estimate, Expand, Fixtures, Floor, Fund, Ideas, Image, Lamps, Layout, Lights, Loans, Match, Materials, Measurements, Paint, Permits, Phases, Plumbing, Process, Requirements, Restroom, Rezone, Show, Space, Storage, Supplies, Tiles, Time, Trades, Value, Vinyl, Workplace

Yesterday's Answer: ZIP Code

The NEW Treasury crossword puzzle is a daily challenge for crossword lovers. It's a 10x10 grid with 1,000 clues. The puzzle is available in print and online. The online version is available at www.wonderword.com. The puzzle is available in print and online. The online version is available at www.wonderword.com.

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

Job Vacancy No. 13-018

Opening Date: Friday, 3/15/13
Closing Date: Thursday, 3/21/13

Contracting Officer

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the Chief Financial Officer OR his/her designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. Organizes and leads teams for small to large and complex procurements, including determining the proper procurement format; digests technical requirements to assemble IFB or RFP solicitations; drafts contracts; and reviews procurement regulations to make determinations on correct procurement procedures. Reviews and prepares a wide variety of technical documents and reports such as construction schedules, impact statements, budgets, disputed accounts, project reports and monthly status reports for contracts. Collects and monitors a wide variety of data to be used in monitoring and reporting. Performs research and conducts studies related to departmental operations to include collecting and gathering data, analyzing data and making recommendations. Serves as a liaison between assigned department and other departments and organizations to develop procurements and assist in the procurement process. Performs special projects related to departmental operations. Gathers and organizes responses and documents for bid protests and appeals. Participates in developing and implementing policies and procedures related to procurement processes and departmental operations, including a contracts tracking system to ensure renewals and new procurements are organized and planned properly. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Either of the following two requirements will satisfy the minimum experience qualifications:

1. Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Public Administration, or a related field and four years of related experience.

OR

2. Law Degree and two years of related experience.

In addition, minimum qualifications include:

Knowledge of: Applicable laws, rules and regulations, including the FAR and CNMI/CUC Procurement Regulations; Contract administration principles; Basic budgetary principles; Research methods. **Skill in:** Analyzing data; Conducting studies; Conducting research; Preparing technical reports; Preparing presentations; Drafting policies and procedures; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, and the general public sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. **Licensing or Certification Required:** None required, but having the level three warranted contracting officer certification is preferred.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants also having at least one year of contracting experience for a federal agency with a level three contracting officer warrant are preferred.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

POSITION: One (1).

SALARY: \$50,000.00 to \$70,000.00 per annum; Un-graded and Un-classified.

CONTRACT: Two-year; Subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:

If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$10,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:

Human Resource Office
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
P.O. Box 501220
Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" drop off your package.

2. Fax: 670-235-5131

3. Drop Off: Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office. Employment Application drop off is the best submission option.

Applicants from the Contracting Officer job vacancy announcement of JVA No. 11-048 will be considered part of this current announcement. Applicants of 11-048 are requested, however, to update their CUC Employment Applications by contacting the CUC Human Resource Office.

POLICIES:


The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
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The image shows a collage of the Saipan Tribune newspaper front page. The main headline reads 'Over 100 food stamp vouchers on hold'. Other visible headlines include 'Mustang Boss 302', 'Davis, Dujardin win lead honors at SAG awards', 'Kaghs JROTC does well in drill competition', and 'More US Catholics take complaints to church court'. The newspaper is dated Friday, March 15, 2013.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Restaurant General Manager (1)

Classification: Full-Time, Exempt, 50 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Area General Manager (AGM)

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Crew Member (2)

Classification: Full-Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Manager In Charge (MIC)

Summary of Responsibilities
Performs a variety of duties that may include the duties of a Telephone Person, Cashier, Register Person, Dough Person, Cut & Pack Cook, Maketable Pizza Preparer, Receiving & Stocking and Lot Person.

TELEPHONE PERSON
Essential Functions

- Answer telephone quickly within Pizza Hut guidelines.
- Clearly communicate to customers all specials and promotions.
- Accurately record customer orders on to POS system.
- Communicate to make table personnel any special requests.
- Keep counter and work area clean and organized at all times.

CASHIER
Essential Functions

- Ensures an accurate accounting of all transactions, collections and disbursements during work shift.
- Receives cash drawer at beginning of work shift and verifies the accuracy by counting money in cash drawer.
- Obtains and reviews information regarding price changes or menu specials.
- Greet guests as they enter the dining area or carryout area.
- May take guests' food and beverage orders and give orders to kitchen staff.
- Itemizes and totals guests' food and beverage purchases or may collect food and beverage checks from guests and ring them to the register.
- Collects cash, checks, or charge payments from guests. Makes change for cash transactions, verifies identification for checks and prepares charge voucher for credit card purchases.
- Counts money, checks, and charge payments in cash drawer at end of shift.
- May reconcile checks, cash receipts and charge sales with total sales to verify accuracy of transactions.
- Stocks counters, display refrigerators, salad bar, and steam table neatly, accurately and in a timely fashion as per menu.
- Checks to ensure that all display foods are presented attractively as per standards.
- Displays food under appropriate hot or cold conditions as per standards.
- Keeps display equipment clean and free of debris during meal service, as assigned.
- Cleans workstation thoroughly before leaving area assignment.
- Relays relevant comments received from customers directly to supervisor.

REGISTER PERSON
Essential Functions

- Responsible for providing quick and efficient service to customers.
- Greets customers and takes their food and beverage orders.
- Accurately records customer's orders on to POS system and computes the amount of the bill.
- Serves drinks from dispensing machines or makes and serves hot drinks from water heater or coffee maker.
- Picks up food items from serving bar or storage area.
- Places items on tray or in take-out containers.
- Checks orders to ensure that guest is receiving a complete and correct order.
- Informs kitchen staff of shortages or special requests.
- Collects payment from guest and makes change.
- Helps with preparation of food in kitchen.
- Helps with getting back up food on line
- Washes dishes.
- Informs manager of stock levels.
- Restocks drink station/supplies, paper.
- Checks supplies in counter area – napkins, crushed peppers and cheese, and restocks items to ensure a sufficient supply throughout shift.
- Wipes off front counter with cleaning solution and clean cloth. Keeps counter and floor clean at all times.
- Cleans and restocks dining room.
- Takes trash out to dumpster.
- Performs long-term maintenance on sidewalks, walls, and equipment.
- Sweeps and keeps exterior lot clean at all times throughout the shift.

DOUGH PERSON
Essential Functions

- Responsible for dough preparedness as prescribed from Manager In Charge
- Complies with all portioning, quality standards, rules, policies, and safety procedures.
- Selects and transports raw items to work area and back.
- Stores finished products in proper places.
- Selects proper equipment and utensils to prepare items as procedures require – dough mixer, whips, pitcher, proofer, bun-o-matic, retarder and dough roller.

CUT & PACK COOK
Essential Functions

- Checks workstations for presence of small equipment, assembly materials, paper goods and condiments.
- Responsible for product assembly, checks appearance and calls out preparation times for all orders.
- Monitors oven setting according to Pizza Hut standards.
- Checks all finished products to ensure compliance with Pizza Hut standards.
- Communicates with maketable personnel, front line personnel and MIC for quality controls and feedback.

MAKETABLE PIZZA PREPARER
Essential Functions

- Responsible and required to prepare and assemble all products according to customer's order and according to Pizza Hut portioning specifications.
- Sets up the maketable by checking the worktable, counter, dough cabinets, and line refrigeration to ensure they are properly stocked prior to the meal production period.
- Checks all workstations (maketable, pasta) for presence of appropriate small equipment, assembly materials, and stock levels.
- Monitors all food production areas for safety and sanitation practices and procedures. Checks for cleanliness and orderliness and provides direction/takes action as necessary.
- Sets up production cycles, ensure proper inventory levels are available, and calls to back up or replenish items as necessary.

EMPLOYER'S RIGHTS: This job description does not list all the duties of the job. You may be asked by your supervisors or managers to perform other duties. You will be evaluated in part based upon your performance of the tasks listed in this job description. The employer has the right to revise this job description at any time. The job description is not a contract for employment, and either you or the employer may terminate employment at any time, for any reason.

WAIT HELP
Essential Functions

- Greets the guests as they enter the dining area.
- Clearly communicate to customers all specials and promotions.
- Take guests' food and beverage orders and give orders to kitchen staff.
- Attends to the needs of the customers.
- Clears table when guests leave.
- Wipes tables with cleaning solution and a clean cloth.
- Performs secondary duties such as phone order taking, product preparation and restaurant maintenance.
- Keeps dining area clean and organized at all times.
- Relays relevant comments received from customers directly to supervisor.

RECEIVING & STOCKING
Essential Functions

- Responsible for the receipt and storage of all food, supplies and materials received in the restaurant using proper EXPERT, FIFO and Pizza Hut procedures.
- Receives all food, supplies, and materials.
- Checks all incoming items for count, quality and specification.
- Ensures that items are received and stored at the proper temperatures.
- Maintains the completion and compliance of all delivery and inventory records as defined by proper Pizza Hut procedures.
- Keeps all storage areas and inventory in a neat and orderly fashion.
- Maintains the quality of the restaurant products by ensuring that all inventory are dated properly before storing to effect proper FIFO usage.
- Maintains the safety of the restaurant by ensuring that all storage areas are free of hazardous conditions.

LOT PERSON
Essential Functions

- Receives assignment from Manager In Charge at the start of shift.
- Maintains cleanliness and sanitation of dining room including all tables, chairs, support bars, floors, windows, and trash receptacles.
- Cleans and restocks drink station with ice and lids as needed.
- Cleans and restocks restroom facilities with soap, toilet tissue and paper towels. Empties trash containers, cleans walls, doors, basin, mirrors, floors and toilets.
- Maintains exterior cleanliness from litter and debris. Checks lighting, windows, landscape, parking lot, sidewalks, trash coral and signage.
- Communicates with manager in charge to maintain cleanliness efficiency and ensures guest satisfaction. This includes assisting guests with trays and opening doors.
- Follows priority sequence on lot checks, should take care of any eye soars first, such as spilled drinks, over flowing trash receptacles, etc.
- Return trays to designated area to be cleaned.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Abilities, Knowledge, and Skills
Able to understand and implement written and verbal instructions. Communicates clearly, courteously and efficiently with customers in English. Must possess basic math skills.

Required Experience
Food service and food production experience preferred. Cash handling experience preferred.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Position requires well-paced mobility for minimum periods minimum of four hours. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday. Must be able to bend and stoop occasionally. Must be able to occasionally lift 25 lbs.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions

Shift Manager (2)

Classification: Full Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Assistant Restaurant General Manager (ARGM)
Restaurant General Manager (RGM)

Summary of Responsibilities
The Shift Manager reports directly to the Restaurant General Manager. The SM assists the RGM in the achievement of the people, financial and operational goals of the restaurant.

Essential Accountabilities

- People
 - Assists RGM in achieving restaurant's staffing and development goals
 - Assists RGM in monitoring/ improving employee morale
 - Personally coaches staff
 - Ensures safety is everyone's top priority
 - Ensures compliance with all applicable laws
- Financial
 - Assists RGM in achieving sales and profits to plan.
 - Displays urgency to correct daily financial control deficiencies
 - Strives to drive year-upon-year growth in sales and profits
- Operations
 - Delivers/ improves delivery of QSC to franchise operational standards
 - Raises the bar in operational execution
- Assets:
 - Ensures facilities are maintained to franchise standard on a daily basis
 - Displays awareness of asset deficiencies and urgency to correct them
 - Displays awareness and urgency to eliminate any potential for liability
- Availability
 - Open availability.
 - Minimum 5 day, 40 - 45 hour work week.
 - Vehicle required.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience required.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Delivery Driver (1)

Classification: Full Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Part Time, Non-Exempt, less than 32 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Manager In Charge (MIC) / Dispatcher

Summary of Responsibilities
Delivers customer's order in a timely and safe manner within accordance of Pizza Hut guidelines and compliance with State and Federal traffic laws.

Essential Functions

- Drives competently and complies with all traffic laws.
- Delivers products in a timely manner with accuracy and courteousness.
- Collects checks, cash or credit card slips to properly tender order.
- Performs secondary duties such as washing dishes, cleaning, prep and cooking duties.
- Keeps car and work area clean and organized throughout shift.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma preferred.

Abilities, Knowledge, and Skills
Must be at least 18 years of age. Must possess a valid CNMI driver's license with a minimum of 2 years driving experience. Must have an acceptable driving record. Must provide own insured vehicle for deliveries. Able to read and follow road maps. Must be able to speak, read, write and understand English. Must be able to communicate clearly, courteously and efficiently with customers.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Position requires well-paced mobility for a minimum of four hours. Requires driving, standing and walking for most of the workday. Must be able to lift 25 lbs. occasionally.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

All interested applicants may get application at Pizza Hut Restaurant in Gualo Rai • Closing Date: March 22, 2013

Reggie Bush to Lions, Welker to Broncos

By BARRY WILNER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER



Wes Welker sure knows how to pick his quarterbacks.

The star receiver, Tom Brady's favorite target, is leaving New England and heading to Denver, where he'll join Peyton Manning and the Broncos.

Also getting new deals were Reggie Bush in Detroit, Dashon Goldson in Tampa Bay, and even Ray Lewis—with ESPN.

Day 2 of the NFL's free agency frenzy was highlighted by Welker grabbing a two-year deal with the Broncos, who had the AFC's best regular-season record last year. He gives Manning one of the steadiest targets the four-time league MVP ever has had.

"When you look at Wes in the middle of the field, you can't cover him," Broncos boss John Elway said. "He does such a tremendous job of getting open, finding seams in zones, beating man-to-man coverage. So, he'll be a huge asset for us inside."

The best slot receiver in the league, Welker caught 118 passes for 1,354 yards and six TDs last season. That the Broncos are signing a top player away from New England certainly didn't hurt, either.

"Anytime you can take a player from a team you have to compete against, it helps, especially the caliber of Wes Welker," Elway said. "New England is there year in and year out and that's a team we have to beat to get where we want to get."

Denver also came to terms on a two-year deal with defensive tackle Terrance Knighton, formerly of Jacksonville, and a one-year contract with linebacker Stewart Bradley, who played with the Cardinals the past two seasons. Later in the evening, the team added cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie with a one-year deal.

Bush agreed to a four-year deal and could fill a huge hole at running back. The Lions haven't been able to count on 2010 first-round draft pick Jahvid Best, whose career is in doubt because of concussion issues.

"It's a running back's dream," Bush said. "One of the reasons I wanted to come here is to be able to bring a balanced attack."

Bush adds to a strong offense led by record-setting All-Pro receiver Calvin Johnson. The second overall pick in 2006 by New Orleans, Bush rushed for 986 yards for Miami last season after gaining 1,086 yards in 2011, his first year with the Dolphins.

"The thing that was important to us was not just the talent of Reggie Bush, but also the way those talents complemented the other players we have on offense," coach Jim Schwartz said. "That was really the basis of our interest in Reggie."

The Lions also landed safety



In this Dec. 10, 2012, file photo, New England Patriots wide receiver Wes Welker (83) returns a punt during the first quarter of an NFL football game against the Houston Texans in Foxborough, Mass.

Glover Quin and defensive end Jason Jones and retained cornerback Chris Houston.

All-Pro safety Goldson gets a five-year contract worth \$41.25 million. He receives \$8.25 million per year and \$22 million in guaranteed money. He spent the past two seasons on one-year contracts with the 49ers, including last year with the franchise tag for \$6.2 million.

"Hard work really pays off. I remember signing up to play football, hiding it from my mom," as a youngster growing up in Harbor City, Calif., Goldson said. "My journey, I wouldn't say it was rough, but it was a little rocky."

Free agent defensive back Charles Woodson had a meeting with the NFC champion Niners in the Bay Area on Wednesday, according to his agent, Carl Poston.

Also Wednesday, former Kansas City Chiefs defensive end Glenn Dorsey signed a two-year contract after meeting with the Niners. The deal could pay Dorsey up to \$7 million with incentives, a person with knowledge of the contract told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because terms weren't announced.

One day after signing five players to contracts, Pro Bowl safety LaRon Landry became the Indianapolis Colts' newest addition by signing a four-year contract with Indy late Wednesday night.

"We're ecstatic about this signing," general manager Ryan Grigson said in a statement issued by the team. "We feel LaRon is an absolute game-changer and a true impact player. We're talking about a 220-pound safety that runs 4.3 (in the 40-yard dash) and plays to that speed. His approach to the game and his style of play are lights out and embody the culture we're building on the defense and this

team in general."

Last season, with the New York Jets, he was selected to the AFC's Pro Bowl team after recording a career-high 113 tackles, matching his career-high with two interceptions and forcing four fumbles.

Cleveland remained active, agreeing to terms with linebacker Quentin Groves and tackle Desmond Bryant to further bolster a defense that added Ravens linebacker Paul Kruger hours after free agency began.

"With the additions of Paul and Desmond, we believe that we have significantly improved our defense overall, particularly our front seven," Browns CEO Joe Banner said.

Kruger is one of many Super Bowl winners to leave the Ravens, including hard-hitting safety Bernard Pollard, who was released Wednesday. The biggest loss for Baltimore was an expected departure: Lewis announced in early January that he was ending his 17-year career. Then he led the Ravens to the championship.

On Wednesday, he joined ESPN as a studio analyst—an intense one, no doubt.

"I'm ready to bring the same level of passion to this next phase of my life as I brought to the field during my years as a player," Lewis said.

Baltimore signed defensive lineman Chris Canty, offensive lineman Ramon Harewood and running back Damien Berry.

Kansas City added cornerback Dunta Robinson, receiver Donnie Avery and offensive lineman Bryan Mattison to the three free agents it signed the previous day when the marketplace opened.

The Chiefs, who have the No. 1 pick in next month's draft after a 2-14 season, agreed to deals with tight end Anthony Fasano,

defensive tackle Mike DeVito, and quarterback Chase Daniel on Tuesday, when they also finalized the trade with San Francisco for starting QB Alex Smith.

After hiring Andy Reid as coach and John Dorsey as general manager, the Chiefs signed wide receiver Dwayne Bowe and punter Dustin Colquitt to long-term deals and franchised left tackle Branden Albert.

Also Wednesday:

■ Chicago released tight end Kellen Davis and also terminated the contract of tight end Matt Spaeth after signing Martellus Bennett away from the Giants on Tuesday to replace him.

■ The Giants signed 11-year veteran place kicker Josh Brown, who joins former Cowboys kicker David Buehler on the roster and apparently indicating free agent Lawrence Tynes won't be back. Tynes has made winning field goals in two NFC championship games in overtime and the Giants went on to win the Super Bowl in those seasons.

■ Pittsburgh found its backup to QB Ben Roethlisberger in a Steel City native, Bruce Grad-

kowski. The 30-year-old Gradkowski is 6-14 as a starter with Oakland, Cleveland and Tampa Bay. He spent the 2011-12 seasons with the Cincinnati Bengals, appearing in five games.

Pittsburgh also released off-injured offensive lineman Willie Colon.

■ Arizona, in dire need of help in the backfield, agreed on a one-year contract with former Steelers starter Rashard Mendenhall. For three of his seasons, Mendenhall's offensive coordinator was new Cardinals coach Bruce Arians.

The Cardinals also cut free safety Kerry Rhodes, a move that cleared \$6 million in salary cap space, and added cornerback Jerraud Powers, safety Jeremiah Bell, linebacker Lorenzo Alexander and quarterback Drew Stanton.

■ Jacksonville released receiver Laurent Robinson, the latest high-priced player let go as part of the team's rebuilding project. Robinson signed a five-year, \$32.5 million free agent-contract last season before missing considerable time with concussions.

"It's unfortunate, but it's part of the business," Robinson said. "Got to keep your head up and keep moving. Can't ever be surprised in this league."

■ Tennessee agreed to terms on a multi-year deal with fullback Quinn Johnson, who has been one of Chris Johnson's lead blockers with the Titans.

■ Buffalo addressed a need at linebacker by signing seven-year veteran Manny Lawson. The Bills are switching from a 4-3 alignment to a 3-4 under new coordinator Mike Pettine.

■ Miami already had signed linebacker Dannell Ellerbe and added to that unit Wednesday by giving Philip Wheeler a five-year contract, worth \$26 million, half of that guaranteed. He spent his first four NFL seasons with the Indianapolis Colts and played last season for the Raiders, where he had career highs of 109 tackles and three sacks.

The Dolphins released linebackers Karlos Dansby and Kevin Burnett.

■ Minnesota re-signed LB Erin Henderson and WR Jerome Simpson, while Washington did the same with DE Kedric Golston.

■ New Orleans re-signed long snapper Justin Drescher to a four-year contract.

■ The New York Jets re-signed fullback Lex Hilliard to a one-year contract, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team had not yet announced the move. Hilliard was signed in the middle of last season to replace John Conner.

■ The Dallas Cowboys are releasing veteran defensive tackle Marcus Spears, with the move designated for June 1, when it will save the Cowboys \$2 million against the salary cap. Spears, who turned 30 last week, was the second of two first-round picks after DeMarcus Ware in 2005.

■ Seattle and defensive end Cliff Avril reached agreement on a deal that addresses one of Seattle's big offseason concerns, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The agreement was still pending a physical.

Brewers, Gomez agree to \$28.3M, 4-year deal



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Carlos

Gomez ran after balls hit into the outfield and zipped from base to base with the same intensity, his big new contract apparently not affecting his style of play.

Gomez and the Milwaukee Brewers agreed to a four-year, \$28.3 million deal on Wednesday, and Gomez played in a spring game hours later.

The 27-year-old center fielder would have been eligible for free agency after this season. He agreed to a one-year, \$4.3 million deal in

January, and the new contract includes salaries of \$7 million in 2014, \$8 million in 2015 and \$9 million in 2016.

Gomez hit .260 with 19 homers and 37 stolen bases in 137 games in 2012. He was one of only five players in the majors with at least 15 homers and 30 stolen bases, joining teammate Ryan Braun, the Los Angeles Angels' Mike Trout, Tampa Bay's B.J. Upton and Philadelphia's Jimmy Rollins.

Gomez was in the starting lineup for the Brewers against the Arizona and went 0 for 2 with a walk.

"I feel really good that I'll be able to stay three more years with the Brewers now that they've given me a new opportunity," Gomez said in Spanish after leaving the game. "It was important for me to sign for three more years because this was going to be my fourth year with the organization that gave me a chance. I know I can have a better year than last year, and that's why I decided to sign for longer."

Brewers president and general manager Doug Melvin praised Gomez in a statement from the club.

Heat streak at 20 after 98-94 win over 76ers

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—LeBron James scored 27 points as the Miami Heat rallied to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 98-94 on Wednesday night and become the fourth team to win at least 20 consecutive games in a season.

Dwyane Wade added 21 as the Heat needed big baskets over the final 2 minutes to top the Sixers for the milestone win.

Only three teams have won at least 20 consecutive games in the same season: the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers (33), the 2007-08 Houston Rockets (22) and the 1970-71 Milwaukee Bucks (20). The Washington Capitals also won 20 straight, spanning the end of the 1947-48 season and the start of the 1948-49 campaign.

Thaddeus Young had 24 points and 15 rebounds for the Sixers.

Hawks 96, Lakers 92

In Atlanta, Devin Harris scored 17 points, Ivan Johnson hit a key basket and short-handed Atlanta shook off a 20-point third quarter by Kobe Bryant to end a three-game losing streak.

Bryant finished with 31 points, but made just 11 of 33 shots. He drove the baseline with a chance to force overtime but watched his jumper slide off the rim with 3 seconds remaining. Making matters worse, he landed on Dahntay Jones' foot and twisted his left ankle, crum-

pling to the court in pain.

Bryant hobbled off and Kyle Korver knocked down two free throws to clinch it.

Atlanta won for just the second time in eight games despite missing Josh Smith and Jeff Teague.

Grizzlies 96, Clippers 85

In Los Angeles, Marc Gasol scored 21 points, Tayshaun Prince added 18 and surging Memphis got its 14th victory in 15 games.

Mike Conley had 17 points and 11 assists, and Zach Randolph scored 13 points as the Grizzlies hung on in the fourth quarter of back-to-back games for their sixth straight victory. Memphis followed up last night's road win in Portland with a tenacious effort against the Clippers, who have lost three of five.

Memphis (44-19) is percentage points ahead of Los Angeles (45-21) for third place in the Western Conference, although the Clippers are the Pacific Division leaders.

Chris Paul had 24 points and nine assists, and Blake Griffin added 22 points for the Clippers, who won the clubs' first two meetings this season.

Nuggets 117, Knicks 94

In Denver, Carmelo Anthony's return to the Pepsi Center was a flop as Wilson Chandler scored 24 points and Denver blew out

ailing New York.

The Nuggets led by as many as 34 points on the way to winning their 10th straight game and 14th straight at home.

This one was such a laugh that their starters didn't play the fourth quarter.

Neither did Anthony, who left a couple of minutes into the second half when his balky right knee, which he acknowledged Tuesday isn't getting better, acted up. He scored just nine points on 3-of-12 shooting.

Iman Shumpert led New York with 20 points.

Celtics 112, Raptors 88

In Boston, Kevin Garnett scored 12 points, passing Jerry West for 15th on the NBA's career scoring list, and Paul Pierce joined him among the top 20 scorers in league history with 15 points to lead Boston.

Garnett needed four points to pass West (25,192 points) and Pierce entered the game nine points shy of equaling Charles Barkley (23,757) for 20th.

Garnett hit a bank shot with 10:03 left in the second quarter and received a standing ovation when his milestone was announced during a stoppage a few minutes later. Boston fans returned to their feet again in the third to recognize Pierce.

Jeff Green scored 20 to lead the Celtics, who ended a two-game slide and won their 10th straight at home.

Rudy Gay had 19 points and DeMar DeRozan added 17 points for the Raptors, who have lost seven of nine.

Pacers 107, Timberwolves 91

In Indianapolis, Roy Hibbert had a season-high 27 points and 12 rebounds to lead Indiana.

Paul George had 17 points and George Hill added 16 points with six assists to help the Pacers get their second win in three games.

Ricky Rubio had 21 points and 10 assists and Luke Ridnour scored 17 points for the Timberwolves, who have lost nine of their last 11 games.

The Pacers went on an 8-0 run at the end of the first half to take a 62-54 lead at halftime. They stretched the advantage to 16 late in the third quarter when George hit a fadeaway jumper and then a 3-pointer.

Wizards 106, Bucks 93

In Washington, John Wall had 23 points and 10 assists as Washington beat Milwaukee.

Wall and Wizards coach Randy Wittman appeared to exchange unpleasant words during a timeout late in the third quarter, but Wall rallied with eight fourth-quarter points to hold off the Bucks' comeback.

It was Wall's seventh double-double of the season. He also added six rebounds and four steals.

The Wizards have won three straight home games and eight

of 11 in Washington.

Monta Ellis scored 26 points for the Bucks.

Rockets 111, Suns 81

In Houston, Donatas Motiejunas scored a career-high 19 points to lead five Houston starters in double figures.

James Harden scored 18 and Omer Asik had 14 for the Rockets, who stayed in the No. 7 spot in the Western Conference standings.

Wesley Johnson scored 10 of his 15 points in the first quarter for the Suns, who lost to Houston for just the fourth time in the last 14 meetings. Luis Scola had four points and four rebounds in his first game in Houston since the Rockets designated him as their amnesty cut last summer.

Thunder 110, Jazz 87

In Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant scored 23 points, Russell Westbrook added 19 and Oklahoma City cruised past Utah.

Kevin Martin had 15 points as Oklahoma City improved to 25-8 at home. The Thunder led 29-19 after one quarter and 50-28 at halftime.

Gordon Hayward scored 20 points to lead Utah, and Enes Kanter had 12. The Jazz lost for the eighth time in 10 games, but remained one-half game behind the Los Angeles Lakers for eighth place in the West.

Kings 121, Bulls 79

In Sacramento, California, Tyreke Evans had 26 points and seven assists in Sacramento's most lop-

sided victory of the season.

The Kings opened the second quarter with a 26-4 run against the lethargic Bulls to hike their lead to 34 points. It was an almost error-free first half for the Kings, who committed just one turnover and took a 65-36 lead into intermission.

The Kings shot 54 percent and tied a season low with five turnovers.

Making his first start of the season, Patrick Patterson had 14 points and nine rebounds, and Jason Thompson had 12 points for the Kings, who snapped a five-game losing streak against Chicago.

Warriors 105, Pistons 97

In Oakland, California, Stephen Curry had 31 points and eight assists and David Lee added 20 points and 15 rebounds as Golden State grinded out a victory over struggling Detroit.

Jarrett Jack finished with 19 points and five assists off the bench and hit some big shots late to make sure the Warriors avoided a monumental setback. They improved to 4-2 on their season-high, seven-game homestand, which ends Friday against Chicago, and remained 1 1/2 games ahead of Houston for sixth place in the Western Conference.

Rodney Stuckey scored 22 points and Kyle Singler had 16 in Detroit's seventh straight loss. Reserve Will Bynum added 16 points to help fill the void left by Brandon Knight, who sat out with a sprained left ankle.



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ALLEN

From Page 32

and finishing over six minutes ahead of Wasle.

Wasle, who got a lot of breaks last weekend despite the treacherous weather on XTERRA Saipan day, hopes to end her series of bridesmaid finishes in Saipan races with a big win in Tagaman.

“I am really happy after finishing XTERRA Saipan in second and not having a bad fall in

the bike race. However, I will be happier if I could win Tagaman this time. Hopefully, the weather will be great on Saturday,” Wasle said.

Wasle will be pressured to win Tagaman by no less than six minutes to take the PIC Double title, which is determined by combining the pros time in XTERRA and Tagaman.

Allen has a big lead in the men’s division, going into tomorrow’s race after timing in at 2:36:36 in XTERRA Saipan against the 2:52:04 of fourth

finisher and United Kingdom’s Sam Gardner, sixth placer and Switzerland’s Olivier Marceau (2:59:45), and Scotland’s Rory Downie (3:03:49). Runner-up Dan Hugo (2:44:18) and Bradley Weiss (2:50:54) of South Africa are not competing in tomorrow’s race.

“I guess my Saipan trip will be complete if I win Tagaman, too. I look forward to having a strong finish on Saturday,” said Allen, who had the lead in last year’s race before eventual champion Cedric Lassonde

snuck past him near DFS Galleria in the run leg and won the race by just 20 seconds.

“I am better prepared this year than last’s and improved my techniques a lot so I am hoping that the meltdown will not happen again,” the Aussie pro said.

Meanwhile, motorist and pedestrians in the San Antonio and Beach Road areas in the south to the Bird Island in the north are advised to take extra caution from 7am to 12pm and give way to bikers and runners.

and Angie’s Boys’ Manglona co-led the field with 25 points apiece.

Game 1

Angie’s Boys 59 – Fernando 21, Francisco 17, Manglona 13, Yap 4, Francisco 2.

R-Rebels 52 – Mettao 18, Litulumar 10, S. Deleon Guerrero 7, E. Camacho 8, W. Camacho 4, R. Deleon Guerrero 2, Nakayama 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-13, 30-24, 47-42, 59-52.

Game 2

R-Rebels 80 – S. Deleon Guerrero 25, Pua 12, Norita 9, Nakayama 9, E. Camacho 8, Litulumar 7, Nawaz 4, Mettao 4, R. Deleon Guerrero 2.

Angie’s Boys 67 – Manglona 25, Fernando 21, Francisco 12, Maranan 7, Yap 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-21, 37-37, 54-48, 80-67.

ANGIE’S BOYS

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prize will go to the winner. A total of 18 teams divided among three pools originally made up the field.

Angelo Fernando sizzled in the first quarter of Game 1 last Monday. He strung together 12 points in the first period to give Angie’s Boys an early 18-13 lead after the first canto,

The count merely shifted to 30-24 at the half in favor of Angie’s Boys as Eugene Manglona took the reins from Fernando in the second quarter. Frank Mettao paced R-Rebels through the first two frames with 14 points.

It remained a physical battle after the break as Angie’s Boys maintained a 47-42 spread heading into crunch time thanks to a late 3-pointer by Ralph Francisco that com-

plemented another 6 markers from Fernando in the third.

With just under seven minutes left in regulation the match was suspended and upon resumption of the match, R-Rebels’ Fred Litulumar tried to ignite a comeback with a trio of buckets.

However, Litulumar’s flurry of points were matched on the other end by Francisco as Angie’s Boys held on to draw first blood in what was an uneventful continuation aside from a self-destructive technical foul by R-Rebels.

Fernando finished with a game-high 21 points, while Mettao logged 18 in the loss.

R-Rebels would eventually regroup in the second match, but they remained in the backseat again in the first quarter of Game 2, 16-21, as Angie’s Boys’ Fernando tallied 9 points from the tip gift-wrapped with

mixed support.

Shane Deleon Guerrero and Y.J. Nakayama hooked up for a baker’s dozen in the second stanza as R-Rebels clawed its way back to a 37-all deadlock at mid-point. A handful from Manglona fronted Angie’s Boys in the second quarter.

The R-Rebels put their heads down and grinded out a 54-48 lead after three as Omar Mawaz and Nakayama came off the bench for 8 points that provided a much-needed spark for the squad.

Deleon Guerrero then stepped up huge in the clutch and with 15 points that willed the R-Rebels to the win. He was everywhere on the court and created offense by snatching multiple steals in transition. Jimmy Pua added three late buckets from the post to help seal the deal as well.

R-Rebels’ Deleon Guerrero

COMETS

From Page 32

clusive’s Ryan Borja (.333), and IT&E Fielders’ Austin Roberto (.333) with six other with at least nine at bats swinging between 02.00 and 0.300.

Camacho’s nine runs batted in (RBI) set the bar ahead of Borja (5) and Vicente Leon Guerrero (5); Aguons’ two triples leads Camacho and Red Sox’s Roke Tenorio, while X-clusive’s Allen Cepeda has logged three doubles that head four others with two apiece and 15 solo acts.

Delos Santos-Lizama’s eight runs scored leads X-clusive’s Jay Kalen (7), T.J. Dela Cruz (6), Nakamura (6), and seven others with a handful apiece.

Camacho is also a member of the home run club along with Aguon, Leon Guerrero, Comets’ Aurel Mendiola, and Ol’Aces’ Juan Quitugua all with one apiece.

In the Senior League, Enforcers’ Darion Jones heads the pack with 11 hits in 17 at bats for a dependable hitting rate of 0.647.

He leads teammate Franklin K. Lizama (.588), Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero-Kagman Lions’ Mike Muna (.545), IT&E Fielders’ Ian Rogolifoi (.500), Enforcers’ P.J. Sablan (.500), Hunters’ K.J. Deleon Guerrero (.467), Enforcers’ Joe Lizama (.467), Lions’ Justin Santos (.467), Hunters’ Alex Monkeya (.462), and

Docomo Pacific Ol’Aces’ Verlance Secharmidal (.462) with a handful of others with a least 11 at bats swinging between 0.429 and 0.455.

Jones’ nine RBIs is currently tops above Deleon Guerrero (8), Monkeya (7), and Secharmidal (5). Secharmidal and Hunters’ Jhace Palacios, meanwhile, have a league-high two triples and lead a host of 11 others.

Sablan’s three doubles leads 16 others with one apiece and Monkeya has crossed the plate a league-high 10 times and fronts Ol’Aces’ Jesse Brel (7), Jones (7), and Muna (7) with six others knotted up with six runs each.

Deleon Guerrero and Monkeya also each have a home run to their credit.

In the Big League, LEEP Program Enforcers’ Austin Lizama remains atop the batting list with his six hits in nine attempts for a batting average of 0.667.

Behind him comes Docomo Pacific Ol’Aces’ Jared Sablan (.643), Padres’ Brian Camacho (.600) and A.J. Lizama (.533), Ol’Aces’ Jake Flores (.500), IT&E Fielders’ Davy Matagolia (.500), Padres’ Kenta Castro (.500), Natibu Sports Association Braves’ Peter Lieto (.500), Greg Iskawa (.455), and Robert Tudela (.364), and Rachel Q. Reyes-Rays’ Jordan Pangelinan (.364) with six others holding at least nine appearances swinging between 0.333 and 0.357.

Padres’ Brian and Carl Camacho along with Flores lead

in RBIs with six apiece ahead of Ol’Aces’ Jun Rabauliman (5), Lizama (5), Sablan (5), and Castro (4).

Lizama’s three triples leads Flores (2) and Lieto (2) with nine others locked up at one apiece. Iskawa and Tudela hold a share of the doubles lead with three apiece and pace a handful of others with two thus far.

Brian Camacho’s nine runs scored is the mark to beat for Ray Tenorio (8), Lieto (6), Lizama (6), and Ol’Aces’ Lancaster Secharmidal (6).

IT&E’s Ricardo Dela boasts the lone home run so far this season.

In pitching in the Juniors, Comets’ Nakamura (2-0) has given up two earned runs off eight hits through 10 2/3 innings for a league-low earned run average (ERA) of 1.31 among pitchers with at least nine innings on the mound.

He leads Enforcers’ Kier Agda (1.54), Red Sox’s Craig Aguon (3.62), and the X-clusive duo of Virgil Secharmidal (4.80) and Christian Lizama (5.80).

Nakamujra’s 16 strikeouts is also nosing Red Sox’s Nathan Camacho (15), Aguon (14), Agda (13), Franco Igisaiar (12), Anthony Agulto (10), and Enforcers’ Cedric Camacho (10).

In the Seniors, NSA Braves’ Frankie Lieto (1-1) has allowed five earned runs off 14 hits through 16 innings for an ERA of 2.19, which leads Hunters’ Jhace Palacios and Kagman Lions’ Bret Halstead

(3.17). Senior League stats were based off a minimum of 11 innings.

Lieto has also struck out 20 batters during his run and leads Ol’Aces’ Terson Eina (14), Lion’s Dayvin Ada (13), Palacios (13), Enforcers’ Darion Jones (11), and IT&E Fielders’ Khoby Kaipat (11).

In the Big League, Docomo Ol’Aces’ Jared Sablan (1-1) has given up three earned runs off nine hits through 11 innings for an ERA of 1.91.

He leads IT&E Fielders’ Joe Atalig (2.10) and the Padres duo of Carl (2.97) and Brian (3.87) Camacho. Big League stats were based on a minimum of nine innings.

Brian Camacho is separating himself from the pack in the strikeout race with 24 and leads teammate Carl Camacho (15), IT&E’s Leroy Regis (15), Jerome Reyes (11), Atalig (10), and Enforcers’ Tyler Kaipat (10).

Weekend schedule

Saturday’s matchups at Tan Ko Field list a Senior League triple feature starting at 9am with the Kagan Lions taking on the Hunters followed at by the Ol’Aces versus the Braves at noon and ending with the Enforcers against the IT&E Fielders.

Then on Sunday the Junior League takes the stage starting at 9am with the Red Sox versus the Comets, followed at noon by the Falcons against the Lions and ending with the Enforcers lining up across the IT&E Fielders.

NMASA

From Page 32

four people manning the complex. The second biggest allotment (\$150,000) in the budget proposal is for travel expenses for off-island competitions. NMASA did not specify which off-island event the budget is for, but next year, the CNMI is scheduled to compete in the Micronesian Games in Pohnpei. Other expenditures are for office supplies and vehicles.

“We are hopeful that our budget proposal will get strong support from Gov. Eloy S. Inos,” said White, who submitted an initial proposal on Feb. 27, but was told to change it according to the government’s specification and format.

NMASA through White also submitted budget proposals for the past two years to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, but DCCA under Secretary Melvin Faisao, did not include NMASA on the department’s budget request.

DCCA and NMASA has been involved in a tug-of-war for the sports complex for the last three years. NMASA has repeatedly said that it has the mandate to call the shots at the facility, according to PL No. 4-66 approved by then Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio during the 4th

Legislature in 1984. However, there are provisions in the law that also states that NMASA should coordinate with DCCA and other government agencies in managing the complex. There is also the Executive Order 94-3, which put NMASA under the wing of Division of Sports and Recreation, which has been taking care of the facility for the past several decades.

NMASA, however, argued that it should operate with autonomy and get do a better job at taking care of the facility if given an adequate budget. To get independence, NMASA is seeking to repeal some provisions in PL No. 4-66 through two pending house bills (House Bill 17-112 and House Bill 17-268).

Facility closure

Meanwhile, the track and field facility will be closed for public used from March 18 to June, from 3pm to 7pm (Monday to Friday) to give way to the 2012 PSS/McDonald’s All Schools Championships and the rehabilitation of the oval field (soccer/football).

“The public’s patience and understanding is greatly appreciated,” Northern Marianas Athletics official and meet director Elias Rangamar said in a statement sent to Saipan Tribune yesterday.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Miami	49	14	.778	—
d-Indiana	40	24	.625	9 1/2
d-New York	38	24	.613	10 1/2
Brooklyn	38	27	.585	12
Chicago	35	29	.547	14 1/2
Boston	35	29	.547	14 1/2
Atlanta	35	29	.547	14 1/2
Milwaukee	32	31	.508	17
Toronto	25	40	.385	25
Philadelphia	24	40	.375	25 1/2
Cleveland	22	42	.344	27 1/2
Detroit	23	44	.343	28
Washington	21	42	.333	28
Orlando	18	47	.277	32
Charlotte	14	50	.219	35 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

d-San Antonio	49	16	.754	—
d-Oklahoma City	48	17	.738	1
Memphis	44	19	.698	4
d-L.A. Clippers	45	21	.682	4 1/2
Denver	44	22	.667	5 1/2
Golden State	37	29	.561	12 1/2
Houston	35	30	.538	14
L.A. Lakers	34	32	.515	15 1/2
Utah	33	32	.508	16
Dallas	30	33	.476	18
Portland	29	34	.460	19
Minnesota	22	40	.355	25 1/2
Sacramento	23	43	.348	26 1/2
Phoenix	22	43	.338	27
New Orleans	22	43	.338	27

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x-clinched playoff spot

NBA LEADERS

SCORING

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	65	585	552	1839	28.3
Anthony, NYK	52	487	332	1432	27.5
Bryant, LAL	66	640	415	1813	27.5
James, MIA	63	629	329	1672	26.5
Harden, HOU	63	486	541	1652	26.2
Westbrook, OKC	65	532	365	1509	23.2
Irving, CLE	49	416	203	1127	23.0
Curry, GOL	62	480	213	1376	22.2

FG PERCENTAGE

	FG	FGA	PCT
Chandler, NYK	245	380	.645
Jordan, LAC	246	396	.621
Koufos, DEN	246	403	.610
Splitter, SAN	257	438	.587
Hickson, POR	335	584	.574
Howard, LAL	358	625	.573
McGee, DEN	249	437	.570
Ibaka, OKC	354	623	.568
Johnson, TOR	267	470	.568
James, MIA	629	1130	.557

REBOUNDS

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, LAL	60	203	542	745	12.4
Asik, HOU	65	219	545	764	11.8
Randolph, MEM	57	241	417	658	11.5
Noah, CHI	60	247	442	689	11.5
Vucevic, ORL	65	222	518	740	11.4
Lee, GOL	63	182	523	705	11.2
Chandler, NYK	62	260	422	682	11.0
Hickson, POR	62	215	441	656	10.6
Horford, ATL	61	162	454	616	10.1
Cousins, SAC	60	186	411	597	10.0

ASSISTS

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	38	420	11.1
Paul, LAC	54	518	9.6
Vasquez, NOR	65	611	9.4
Holiday, PHL	60	521	8.7
Westbrook, OKC	65	497	7.6
Williams, Bro	62	474	7.6
Parker, SAN	56	426	7.6
Nelson, ORL	48	361	7.5
Calderon, DET	64	472	7.4
James, MIA	63	449	7.1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paire crushes Matansa in Women's M-League



Independents FC's Catherine Perry goes for a kick during their game against Matansa FC in the opening of the Women's M-League at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



After dropping its season opener Paire vented its ire on Matansa, posting an emphatic 9-1 win in Week 2 of the Women's M-League last Tuesday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Youth player Kayleen Salle anchored Paire's demolition of Matansa, scoring four goals

and helping her team bounce back from a loss at the hands of Shirley's FC, 0-2, during the season's opening week. Veteran strikers Natalie Hill and Corina Suda chipped in two goals, while Phalai Frink contributed one. Maile Aldrich was the lone player to score for Matansa, which dropped to a 0-0-2 win-draw-loss card, as it also fell to Independents FC in the league's opening week, 0-3.

Salle opened the scoring for Paire with her goals in the sixth minute, while Aldrich tied the match nine minutes later. Suda then got her first goal in the 24th, while Salle struck two in a row (31st and 34th minute) to give Paire a commanding 5-1 halftime lead.

Suda lit up Paire's scoreboard first in the second half with her goal in the 68th, while Frink made it a 7-1 advantage in the 69th, and Hill closed out

the game for her team with her back-to-back goals (71st and 73rd).

Shirley's 5, Tan Holdings 0

Shirley's made it two in a row after shutting out Tan Holdings FC (0-1-1) in the first game last Saturday night, also at the Oleai pitch.

Shirley's drew goals from five different players with Marielle Gariguez starting things out for the team in the sixth minute. Shirley's went on to take a 2-0 halftime advantage after Melody Johnson found the back of the net in the 21st.

Gariguez was also the first one to score in the second half with her goal in the 58th, while Negahr Rastguay and Jeralyn Castillo completed Shirley's domination of Tan Holdings after tallying one goal apiece in the 75th and 79th minute, respectively.

MP United 2, Independents 1

In the other match last Saturday, MP United broke into the win column after beating Independents (1-0-1).

MP United, which came off a scoreless draw against Tan Holdings in Week 1, boosted its chances for a win in Week 2 after scoring early off Amy Taylor's goal in the fifth. Kayla Ito also got a goal in the 29th for MP United's 2-0 edge at the break.

MP United then managed to hung on to the lead and secure the win after Independents FC only earned one goal, courtesy of Anne Padilla (68th minute).

points, while Diaz added 10.

Julius Tabamo led Susupe's losing cause with his 23 markers, but was held to one field goal and 3 points in the payoff canto.

Meanwhile, Maplas picked up where it left off en route to the 13-point win over JWS.

Maplas led JWS, 54-48, when their March 4 match was rained-out, 9:33 left on the clock.

Ryan Odicta finished the job for Maplas, drilling 9 of his 17 markers in the remaining minutes of the make-up game, while Josephus Aguilar added 6 more to finish with a game-high 29 points. Mico Usi also scored in double figures for Maplas with his 18 markers.

First Game

JWS 79 – Capalad 34, Bisana 16, Diaz 10, Buenabajo 7, Daproza 4, Saplan 4, Alejandro 2.

Susupe 69 – Tabamo 23, Mina 16, Cadag 10, Lansang 6, Diyco 6, Banatasa 4, Buniag 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-20, 44-40, 59-58, 79-69.

Make-Up Game

Maplas La Mani 73 – Aguilar 29, M. Usi 18, Odicta 17, Morales 4, Anicete 3.

JWS 60 – Capalad 15, Bisana 14, Diaz 13, Canoy 8, Saplan 4, Buenabajo 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-21, 27-39, 52-48, 73-60.

3 teams notch big wins in M-League opener

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Three teams started their campaign in the spring season of the M-League with a bang after beating separate opponents last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United, which is now playing in Division 1 after ruling Division 2 of the inaugural staging of the M-League, stunned last season's Division 1 champion Tan Holdings, 5-2.

CNMI National Team member Joe Miller scored a hat-trick in the season opening week to lift MP United to the big win. Mickey Kim and Zheng Xu nailed the two other goals for MP United in the first half, while Miller also had one before the break for their 3-2 halftime lead.

Feng Chin Jin and Chi Ming Tan drained one goal apiece for Tan Holdings in the first half to keep MP United within striking distance. However, the Division 1 champion failed to neutralize Miller in the second half to hand the victory to MP United. Miller got his second goal in the 76th minute and completed the hat-trick four minutes later.

Wild Bill's 7, KFAS 4

Wild Bill's was the second team in Division 1 to have a strong opening game after routing Korean Football Association on Saipan.

Jack Thoensaket was unstoppable in Wild Bill's first game, canning the team's first four goals. He made it to the scoreboard less than two minutes after the match kicked off and got his second more than a minute later. The Wild Bill's strike knocked in two more goals (26th and 34th) for a 4-2 halftime lead.

Eung Soo Kim logged the

pair of goals for KFAS, which managed to tie the match in the 64th minute after Yeong Gil Kim scored right into the first minute of the second half and Sang Ho Choi also drilled one 18 minutes later.

The game remained even for more than eight minutes before Tanapon Unsa found the back of the net in the 76th and Daniel Wollack made back-to-back in the 82nd and 83rd.

Paire 2, Inter Godfather's 1

In another Division A match, Paire edged Inter Godfather's.

Zhi Peng Lin posted both goals for Paire, while fellow youth player Jeff Palacios made the lone goal for Inter Godfather's.

Both teams had a hard time finding their form in their first game of the season, as neither squad scored for more than 40 minutes before Lin broke the ice in the 42nd. Palacios then nailed an equalizer in the closing seconds of the first half. Paire and Inter Godfather's continued to struggle offensive in the second half before Lin connected on the go-ahead goal in the 84th.

DIVISION 2 Sun Palace 2, Matansa 0

Sun Palace duplicated Wild Bill's and MP United's strong starts, as the former debuted with a 2-0 shutout victory over Matansa.

Panapa Peteru made the first conversion for Sun Palace, scoring in the 39th minute, while Resty Vergara posted the other goal in the 63rd.

Shirley's FC and Kanoa collided in the other game in Division 2 last Wednesday, also at the Oleai pitch, with the latter cruising to a 4-1 victory.

JWS in, Susupe out in DLX playoffs

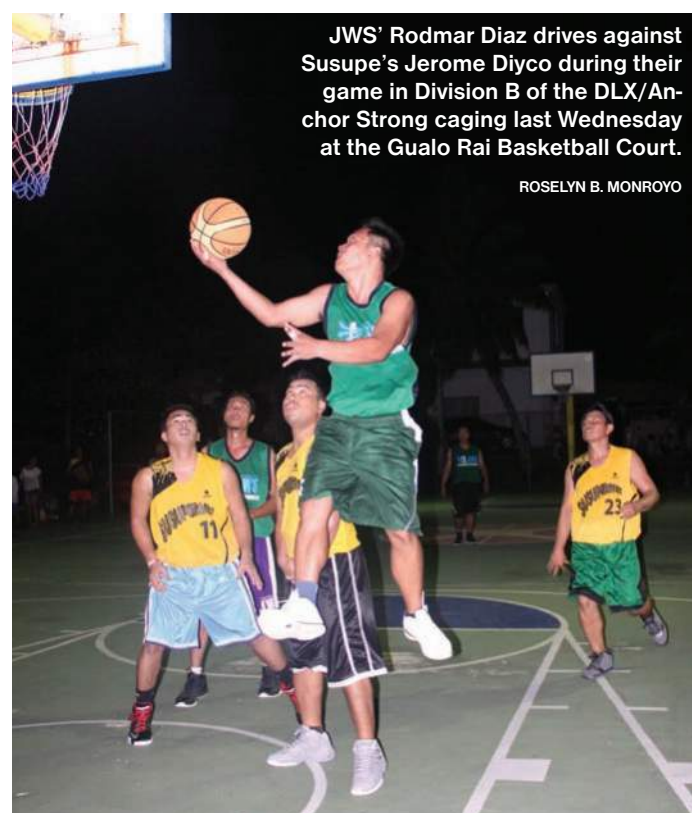
By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



JWS denied Susupe entry to the playoffs in Division B of the 2013 DLX/Anchor Strong Invitational Basketball League after posting a 79-69 win in their make-or-break game last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

JWS held Susupe to two field goals in the last 5:29 of the important match to gain the No. 6 spot in the 10-team field and the last playoff berth. JWS finished the round-robin elimination with a 4-5 record, as it lost to Maplas La Mani in a make-up game, 60-73, later on the same night.

Susupe bowed out of contention after a 3-6 record, joining the ICS Shooters (3-6), LD Prime (2-7), and Servitek (1-8) in the showers. JWS joined Maplas (6-3), Sexy Boys (6-3), and Gualo Rai (5-4) in the playoffs. JWS meets Maplas tonight at 6pm for the third semis slot, while the Sexy Boys collides with Gualo Rai tomorrow for the fourth and last Final Four berth. Adobo (9-0) and Chinatown (6-3), which defeated the Sexy Boys and Maplas in a tie-break for second place, took the two outright semis seats.



JWS' Rodmar Diaz drives against Susupe's Jerome Diyco during their game in Division B of the DLX/Anchor Strong caging last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

JWS missed an automatic semis entry, but still made it to the next round with White Capalad, Cecilio Bisana, and Rodmar Diaz lifting their team to the crucial win. Capalad scored a game-high 34 points, including the back-to-back fastbreak layups that gave JWS cushion, 69-63, after Susupe tied the match for the last time at 63-all. The lead increased to 9 after

Diaz canned an undergoal stab and split his charities, 72-63, but two straight triples from J.R./ Cadag kept Susupe's hopes alive, 69-72, with still 2:08 left on the clock.

However, Susupe fell short, as it missed its next four attempts from downtown, while Diaz and Bisana secured JWS' victory, scoring 5 of their last 7 points. Bisana finished with 16

UBA, RBC holds spring break caging

The Unified Basketball Association and Rollers Basketball will be hosting the 2013 Docomo Spring Break Basketball Tournament later this month.

The competition, which is sponsored by NTT DoCoMo Docomo Pacific and Tan Siu Lin Foundation, will start on March 23 and will have two divisions, the U17 and U30. Games in the U17 will run from March 23 to March 28, while the U30 matches will be played from April 1 to 6.

Entry fees are only \$150 and each team is allowed to have a 12-man roster. Only the first eight teams in the U17 to complete the entry fees and registration and waiver forms will be allowed to play, while the maximum participants for U30 age group is six teams.

Both divisions will have a round-robin format in the elimination and the Top 4 teams will advance to the single-elimination playoffs. Games in the elimination round will be played in two 15-minute halves, while the championship matches will have two 20-minute halves.

Matches on March 23 and 24 will be played from 8am to 8pm at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex in Middle Road, while the March 25 to 28 games will run from 4pm to 9pm. For the U30 tiffs, April 1 to April 5's schedule is from 4 to 9pm, while the March 6 playdate will be from 8am to 8pm.

Trophies will be awarded to the champion teams. The top finisher in the U17 division will also get \$200 worth of gift certificates, while the U30 champion will get \$200 cash.

Requirements should be turned in on or before March 20, while representatives of participating teams must attend the March 23 technical meeting and drawing of slots at 6pm at the Garapan Guidance Center.

Entry forms can be picked up at the GGC or Safety First System in Gualo Rai.

For more information, contact UBA's James Lee at 483-0290 or send email to jameslee_168@yahoo.com. **(Roselyn B. Monroyo)**



**Reggie Bush
to Lions,
Welker to
Broncos**
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**Heat streak
at 20 after
98-94 win
over 76ers**
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Allen, Slack eye another win in Tagaman



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sweethearts Ben Allen and Jacqui Slack aim for another twin victories when they lead participants in tomorrow's 2013 Tagaman Triathlon.

Slack will try to defend the women's title after winning the longest-running triathlon race in the western Pacific region in her debut last year. The Great Britain bet completed the 2-kilometer swim, 60K bike, and 15K race in 3:18:42 to prevail over Austria's Carina Wasle (3:22:54) former Saipan pro Mieke Carey (3:24:05), Switzerland's Renata Bucher (3:26:01), Japan's Ai Hirano (3:51:19), and Dawn Hammermeister (4:04:59).

"I would love to win Tagaman, again. After my XTERRA win, I still feel strong and have gained more confidence. However, I have high respect to my competitors, Renata, Carina, Mieke, and Daz (Parker), so I have to work harder and remain focus to get to the top again," said Slack, who cruised to XTERRA Saipan victory last Saturday, stunning the seven-time champion Bucher

See ALLEN on Page 30

◀ Jacqui Slack gets a hug from boyfriend Ben Allen after placing first in last Saturday's 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMASA seeks \$400K-plus budget for complex takeover

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association submitted a budget proposal for the fourth time to boost its bid for the takeover of the contested Oleai Sports Complex.

The budget proposal is \$486,665 with majority of the

money to be used for the operation and maintenance of the sports complex. NMASA president Michael White, in a brief interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the group's monthly meeting last week, said they turned in the revised budget proposal for FY 2014 to the Of-



White

fice of Budget and Management on March 7.

Under the budget proposal, \$190,000 will go to the repair and maintenance of the sports facility, while \$129,265 covers the personnel costs. NMASA is proposing to have

See NMASA on Page 30

Angie's Boys, R-Rebels play for all marbles tonight

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Angie's Boys and the Refaluwasch Rebels split the first two games of their best-of-three championship series in the Blue Haus's 3rd Invitational Basketball League, setting up a winner-take-all Game 3 tonight at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Angie's Boys took Game 1, 59-52, which first 33 minutes was played last Monday before the two clubs finished off the final minutes during the game's resumption Wednesday.

R-Rebels equalized the finals series later in the evening, winning Game 2, 80-67.

Game 3 starts promptly—weather permitting—at 7pm this evening. A beautiful championship trophy and cash



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Refaluwasch Rebels' Shane Deleon Guerrero slashes through the lane against Angie's Boys during their championship game in the Blue Haus caging Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Comets' Nakamura tops batting in Juniors



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Rep. Antonio Sablan Comets' Franco Nakamura, seen here in a file photo, is currently leading the Junior League in hitting in the 2012 season of the Saipan Little League.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Rep. Antonio Sablan Comets' Franco Nakamura in the Junior League and the DARE Program Enforcers batting regiment in the Seniors are glowing in Saipan Little League Baseball's latest statistics released over the weekend.

Nakamura is fronting the Junior League in both batting and pitching, while the Enforcers boast three of the Top 5 hitters among the Senior field.

Meanwhile, the Big League board remains a mixed bag in both categories. Nakamura has logged six hits in 10 plate appearances for

a league-leading batting average of 0.600.

» Enforcers slugging in Senior League

He leads Bank of Saipan Red Sox's Craig Aguon (.545), Junior Police Officers' Program Enforcers' Franklin Delos Santos-Lizama (.545) and Cedric Camacho (.500), Red Sox's Jobe Reyes (.500) and Jose Tycingco (.333), X-

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